

Original Correspondence.

MUNTZ'S PATENT METAL.

Sir,—Your correspondent, writing under the assumed title of "Fair Play," flatters himself that, because I have not entered more fully into the chemical properties of yellow metal, I am unable to bring forward any argument to refute the assertions of some individuals (who, had they been better informed, would not have made them), but he will be disappointed.

That a galvanic action takes place between copper and zinc, every child from school knows, or should know. Your correspondent should bear in mind that pure metals are not alloys; and that alloys of the same metals, but of different proportions, have different properties, and are suitable for different purposes. The specification of Muntz's patent metal, for which the patent was granted in 1832, comprises several proportions of copper and zinc, mixed into alloys which will roll hot, or, in other words, are malleable when at a red heat: these proportions range from 50 parts of pure copper and 50 parts of pure zinc, and 60 parts of pure copper and 40 parts of pure zinc, with all the intermediate proportions. When the alloy contains a smaller proportion of copper than 60 parts, it is open in its texture, presenting a granular appearance; something similar to pure zinc, but finer in its crystallisation, according to the quantity of copper it contains. In such proportions, the zinc in the alloy is acted upon by salt water more than the copper—it penetrates into the substance of the metal, removing a great portion of the zinc, and leaving the metal in a porous and brittle state; on the other hand, when a larger proportion of copper is used, the alloy assumes a contrary appearance, being remarkably close in texture, more so even than pure copper; the action on the zinc, which occurs in the common alloy, does not take place; and when exposed to corrosion the whole of the compound is destroyed (the original ductility of the metal being retained to the last), in the same manner that pure copper would be, except that the corrosive action is slower.

In the manufacture of sheathing, all that a shipowner requires is that it shall retain sufficient ductility to remain on the ship; and that it shall contain sufficient copper that the portion of its oxide shall prevent the vessel from becoming foul; keeping those two points in view, the more zinc the sheathing contains the better, so that the oxidation may be reduced to the smallest possible extent, compatible with keeping the vessel clean, thereby rendering the metal more durable, and insuring a larger weight returned when stripped off the ship. With bolts and fastenings the case is widely different: the shipowner must not only have a durable metal, but he must have one which will retain all its ductility and strength to the last; here, then, a larger proportion of copper in the alloy is indispensable, it gives to the shipowner a material 50 per cent. stronger than pure copper, and considerably more durable. I will not say a cheaper one, for cheapness should not be taken into account, when the importance of a ship's fastenings are considered. In confirmation of what I have stated, I enclose a piece of sheathing, which has been at sea some time, containing rather more copper than is usually mixed in yellow metal required for that purpose. You will observe that it is reduced to nearly the thickness of paper, without the ductility being the least impaired; the original thickness having been that of the part which has been covered by another sheet.

These remarks apply to metal which is used in boiler tubes, for the strain to which they are exposed by contraction and expansion renders it necessary to employ a material which will retain its ductility. Your correspondent calls on me to name the manufacturers of spurious metal, in order that they may vindicate themselves. I should imagine that spurious manufacturers would prefer that their names should remain unknown. In my opinion, all who make bad metal are spurious manufacturers. But, before your correspondent asks for names, let him tell us his own. Does he think to hide from the public that he is an interested party by hiding his name? Dare he come forward, and declare he is not a manufacturer of brass tubes? Let your readers judge if his last remark is not a confirmation of my former letter. Your correspondent also contradicts himself, and proves thereby that his statement with regard to the value of old yellow metal is not true: he admits that 10½d. per lb. is paid for old metal, thus he feels convinced that if Mr. Muntz and the spurious manufacturers did not give this established price—viz., 10½d. per pound, or 1½d. under new—&c.; and then he goes on immediately to say that "every shipowner knows he can scarcely dispose of old metal at half its value." Does not this show that such old metal, which the shipowner cannot dispose of, is not genuine, and is used for re-manufacture? Surely it is not important to shipowners who they sell to; and one would imagine that they would prefer to dispose of their old metal at 10½d. rather than send it to the Birmingham market at half its value.

It may, perhaps, not have come under your notice that yellow metal has now been used for many years by some of our most celebrated marine engineers—not only for pins and bolts exposed to sea water where copper was formerly used, but for air-pump rods of engines. How is it that those have not failed, when the strain and working of the machinery would have determined any deterioration in the quality of the material? I am not, Mr. Editor, in the habit of noting anonymous letters, which is something like fighting with shadows, and I should not have done so now, had not the circumstances of the case required an explanation from me. If your correspondent will attach his real name, his communications will have more the appearance of "Fair Play," and I shall then be happy to keep the subject of yellow metal before your readers as long as it is agreeable to your correspondent, and you are kind enough to give my letters space in your Journal. G. F. MUNTZ, Junr., Birmingham, March 14.

SULPHURET OF GOLD.

Sir,—Mr. Calvert's is satisfactory, and well done, but it is not enough. I do not presume to argue, but only to elicit actual facts, that all may be benefited. Now, for this sulphuret which I am to filter and dry. When I asked the question, "Where, then, is the sulphuret?" it never entered my head to think of filtering, paper and heat, but of the great laboratory of Nature in which the thing was to be done, if done at all, and conviction has not come as I want it, clear and bright as the sun; therefore, as Mr. Calvert says (very politely) he shall "Be very glad to answer anybody," he will pardon my intruding the question—how Nature preserves her sulphuret of gold from decomposition?

There is another subject on which I want light. Mr. Calvert tells us he takes a specimen of sulphuret of iron which he knows contains gold, by mechanical treatment he looks for it, and finds none; he then says, "I next decomposed it (without heat), and on a second mechanical treatment I find visible grains." His deductions, according to the result, seem perfectly conclusive, but his process is wrapped in darkness. A first mechanical treatment, then decomposition without fire, and a second mechanical treatment, and the thing is done. This may be very clear to Mr. Calvert, but I honestly confess that to me it is not clear. Sulphuret of iron is rather capricious in "Mother Nature's hands" as to its perfect decomposition, even when ground fine and wet. It yields to acids freely, but I cannot suppose such a process to be meant when working on 1000 tons, and as he does not use fire there seems to be nothing left but electro-chemical action; but the application of this process has difficulties which I have never overcome. I trust Mr. Calvert will throw light on this subject. I shall be happy to see Mr. Calvert, and to have the Cwmhelian sulphuret of gold pointed out to me. Dolgelly, March 14. ROBERT WALTER BYRNS.

COST-BOOK ACCOUNTS.

RESPECTED FRIEND,—As a pursuer long conversant with the Cost-book System, I am aware that the objections brought against it are mostly groundless; but I have no wish to appear in print on the subject, except when reflected on personally, or as one of a class. The occasion of my now coming forward is to offer some remarks on the following passage in your last week's review of the state of the share market, under the head "Mining," viz.:—"Again, there is another practice with some pursuers that cannot be too greatly condemned, of crediting as paid calls which are not paid, making the accounts consequently false, &c." I not only plead guilty to including in the cost-book balance the full amount of call made, but I confess myself at a loss to perceive how a pursuer can in any other way present his accounts with equal clearness and correctness. It will scarcely be denied that it is necessary to enter in the cost-book a list of the adventurers liable to each call, with the amount due from each; and the party who penned the article in your Journal from which I have made the extract rightly insists that every liability should also be there entered. Now, the principal liabilities (merchants' bills) are by no means paid before being entered; it would, therefore, appear that your correspondent demands the insertion on one side of all the liabilities, paid and unpaid, but conceals that to enter on the other side the amount of calls, part received and part yet to be received, is an act "that cannot be too greatly condemned," and which makes the "accounts false."

The fact is, the cost-book is not a cash account, but simply an account showing, by its balance, how much the adventurers would have to pay or receive were the accounts closed (liabilities paid and assets received) to the end of a given month, and irrespective of the value of the materials (plant). I conclude that no man of business will consider an account complete, and ready to be laid before a company of shareholders, which shall contain on one side the liabilities incurred, whether paid or not, and on the other side part only of the assets as may have been received, without regard to those yet receivable.

Persons who have brought the advantages of a mercantile education to bear upon mining accounts will have found, with me, that there is no reason why a set of books should not be kept (say, by double entry) for each mine, so that by taking off the ledger balances at any time you may see the state of your affairs. I should be glad to be informed of any mode by which mine adventurers can, in a shorter time, or in a more satisfactory manner, acquaint themselves with the state of their property than by inspecting a balance-sheet such as the following, either entered in the cost-book as a supplement to the usual cost-book statement, or otherwise brought before the adventurers; in the original, the names of the adventurers in default, of course, appear, with the amount due from each:—

Gossanema Mine—Balances from Ledger, 2 mo. 27, 1855.			
For Led.	Amount.	By Led.	Amount.
81 Labour, &c., from commencement.....	\$14,086 4 11	1 Calls, from commencement.....	\$14,086 0 0
20 Materials, &c., ditto.....	8,904 17 0	6 Copper ore sold, ditto.....	9,379 13 3
75 Dividends paid, ditto.....	384 0 0		
Balance, as per cost-book.....	94 11 4		
	\$23,459 13 3		\$23,459 13 3
41 Devon & Cornwall Bank cash account (in hand, per pass book).....	6 4 10	5 Club account (balance of men's club in the adventurers' hands).....	39 0 6
77 Ed. A. Crouch (balance of pursuer's account current).....	61 10 4	68 Devon & Cornwall Bank acceptance account (acceptance and cheques outstanding).....	117 16 7
Sundry adventurers for calls, particulars not here copied.....	132 10 0	Sundry merchants per list, not here copied, being the bills charged this day.....	173 7 11
Due from sundry mines, particulars not copied.....	69 2 6		
81 Labour account, new (paid in part of Jan. and Feb. labour cost).....	145 8 0		
Sundry small balances.....	0 0 8		
	\$414 16 4		\$414 16 4

Your correspondent may say that such a balance-sheet would be satisfactory, if printed and forwarded to the shareholders; this is, in fact, done when the adventurers at their meetings think it desirable, omitting, as in the above abstract, the names of the shareholders who (from absence or accident, or loss of accessible causes) have not paid their calls, omitting, also, the names of the creditors.

Having, I hope, shown some reason why my accounts may be correct, although I

do include in the cost-book balance the full amount of call, I have no wish to intrude further on the columns of your Journal, unless it be to suggest to new companies (which, however, are not just now very numerous), as a matter worth consideration, that many Cornishmen of long experience in mining see no advantage in having any rules and regulations for the government of mines. I have seen such rules upon one or two occasions, and I certainly think them unnecessary. If they contain anything contrary to the Cost-book System, the chance is it had better be omitted, even if it could be enforced; and if anything not contrary to the customs, but only additional to them, yet binding on adventurers, it is worth while to have different rules for different mines when the old system, without rules, works so well? The immediate ancestors of the present leading Cornishmen found the Cost-book System sufficient to meet the requirements of a very active common real period, and I doubt whether any of the projected alterations, such as limited liability of shareholders, &c., would be found improvements.

Where the old system is properly carried out, I believe it works well for all parties concerned, Cornishmen and strangers; and if some of the latter did themselves occasionally saddled with heavy liabilities, it may generally be traced, if I mistake not, to their having connected themselves with parties undervaluing of confidence, or to the want of good management, particularly as respects the accounts, and the due making and enforcement of calls.—*Liskeard, 3 mo. 7.* EDWARD A. CROUCH.

SECRETARY-SHAREDEALERS.

Sir,—I find, from a meeting or two which has taken place lately under London management, that shareholders are beginning to open their eyes. Respectable adventurers who live at a distance, and who scarcely ever attend meetings, are not aware that such a system of share-dealing is carried on by secretaries and merchants combined together. If companies would call in disinterested, respectable, practical agents, they will find out a greater evil still. I now refer to the inefficient agents, appointed to suit the purposes of those people, and which may be classed as follows:—1. The manager, a man who has a good theory, and writes a good report, but a novice in mining. 2. A practical man, who is qualified to conduct all the underground and surface operations. 3. The inefficient man, not allowed to know much, but to suit the purpose of those before spoken of.

We had a small exposure the week before last, and more will, and must, come out by and bye. In this mine, there was a manager of the first class; but, in the absence of the practical man, thousands of pounds had been thrown away, and which Mr. Knorr and Capt. Barratt strongly alluded to. Of the practical man I shall say but little, as he can speak for himself when he has the chance, which is but seldom. If mine agents would merit a situation as they used to do, mines would be worked very differently. The same observation might be applied to the theory, when, I have no doubt, with good government at home, and efficient generals abroad, Sebastopol would have been in the hands of the allies long before this, and thousands of men who are now dead would be living.

Of the inefficient agents we have several. By way of illustration, I will mention one. There is a mine not very far from here where an agent of that description is employed; and he performed his office so well for the secretary and merchant, as a nail they could drive in the first mine, that the secretary recommended him as a man of skill and ability to take the management of another mine, where he also performs the duties of secretary.—*Thurstock, March 13.* C. H.

GREAT HEWAS UNITED.

Sir,—As this meeting was held so late in the week, and the small space of time which elapsed between its termination and your going to press, is, no doubt, a sufficient reason for the discrepancy which has crept into the report of what I then stated, I shall feel obliged if you will insert this note, to put myself right in this respect. In the first place, I stated that a great portion of the expenditure had been incurred in laying out the machinery and plant requisite for the working of the mine, and that the expenditure in a far greater proportion than the expenditure in the mine itself. In my remarks after, I detailed the causes of the extra costs, and did not confine that to the water costs alone. A shareholder complained that the mine was not deep enough. I endeavoured to show the advantages of having good mineral ground in the shallow levels, and did not confine my remarks to the costs for drawing only. I stated that we had good tin ground in the 36, 46, and 56 ft. levels, driving east, in which direction we had from three-quarters of a mile to a mile of "unwrought," or "virgin ground." I did not say that we had that quantity of good tin ground already open. I do not and my fault with you, as reporter, as I have had so many opportunities of witnessing his ability; but I am anxious to put myself right in this respect, or my friends in the country would think me very extravagant in my statements.—*27, Austinfriars, March 15.* WILLIAM CHARLES.

GREAT HEWAS MINING COMPANY.

Sir,—I have no desire to intrude upon your valuable columns, open as they always are to all, free, and fair discussion, but shall esteem it a favour if you can afford me space for a few remarks upon what I consider to be a matter of great importance. I allude to the course pursued at the meeting of shareholders in this company on the 9th inst., with reference to the suppression of the report of the committee of investigation. It was clearly shown in that report that the former secretary and two of the directors had committed gross irregularities, besides being defaulters to a very considerable amount, and it was moved that such report be printed in the *Mining Journal*. This motion, as your report of the proceedings shows, gave rise to discussion; and had such discussion been confined to shareholders, I should have no reason to complain. But the motion was opposed by a party assuming an air of marvellous importance, and who not only took a prominent part in the discussion, but ventured to express an opinion that the publication of the report would have the appearance of private pique.—What monstrous affectation! to say nothing of the insolent reproach upon the conduct of gentlemen who had devoted their time and talents to the interests of the general body of shareholders. I have said that this individual took a prominent part in the discussion; but let it be distinctly understood that he did nothing more—with the exception of voting—than make himself conspicuous: his arguments, or rather his opinion, had not the weight of a feather. It was owing, however, to his unwarrantable interference in the matter that the motion was lost; for his vote brought the decision within the chairman's reach, and he also voted against the motion, and then gave the casting vote, thereby defeating the object of the greater portion of the committee by the glorious majority of one! and that one obtained from a party who, as was afterwards elicited, had no *locus standi*—who was merely entrusted with a proxy, and who, according to the rules of the company, had no right to raise either his voice or his hand, or even to be present at the meeting. It was, therefore, a most ungracious act on the part of this individual—a mere proxy-holder—to oppose the motion, and being, as I understand, a mining secretary, his conduct was the less excusable. His only ground for opposing the motion, was that the public had nothing to do with the matter, and that the public had nothing to do with the publication of the report. 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were considered the value by the promoters, but the goodwill and business in hand, and likely to accrue from the combination of the two establishments; and the prospectus stated that arrangements were made for the purchase, and had they not been taken up as a joint-stock undertaking would have been carried on by the proprietors. There were no misrepresentations in the actual state of the works or prospect of success, and such was the confidence of the directors, as well as some of the shareholders, that they purchased shares at premiums; and, as far as the directors were concerned, they never sold a share, although they could have obtained a premium of 50 to 75 per cent. I should also observe that several of the shareholders were the very parties who agreed to the sale of the Tamar Works, and were, therefore, well acquainted with the price that had been given for them, and were invited to, and some did, visit the works at Millwall. There was, therefore, no concealment either practiced or intended, but every opportunity given for any shareholder to judge for himself whether the price at which the works were offered was a fair and just one, according to what business was doing, and the capabilities and prospects for the future; and had there been a continuance of the prices given for preparing and smelting ores, the prices of coals and labour not have increased, and the lead produced have been sold without depreciation in value, and other causes unforeseen, and not under the control of the directors, the account would have shown on the two years' working a profit of 15,000l. I am prepared with documents to prove that in comparison with operations carried on in 1852, the company, for the greatest part of the time they have worked, have had to pay fully 30 per cent. more for coals, freight, and labour, about on an average 20s. per ton more for lead ore, and nearly 5d. per ounce more for the silver contents of silver ores. Of the former we have smelted 4200 tons, and of the latter 1330 tons, producing 650,000 ounces of silver—that they have lost more than 5000l. by the obligation to sell lead under the prices at time of purchase, and that from not having a market for the lead produced they have been unable to obtain the amount for returning charges on lead ores which would otherwise have accrued in smelting silver ores, instead of using the lead produced over again, which may be estimated at about 4500l. And lastly, I would observe that the charges made for crushing and preparing ores have been reduced by other establishments from 30s. to 21s. per ton. I now beg to refer to the amount charged by the promoters for the two works, and can only say that if, in the present unexpected position of the undertaking, the shareholders should determine on winding-up the company's affairs, I had rather personally forego any benefit obtained on the sale of the works than claim any exceptional advantage, and thus voluntarily place myself in the same position as the general body of the shareholders."

TINCROFT MINING COMPANY.

A meeting of shareholders was held, on Thursday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, Mr. JOHN FIELD in the chair.

The advertisement convening the meeting having been read, The CHAIRMAN said the meeting was convened for the purpose of receiving a report from the directors, but they had not found that there were any materials sufficient to make a regular or formal report. He would, therefore, briefly state what had been done since the last meeting; after which there would be a report read to the meeting, which had been prepared by Mr. Hiram Williams, and also a report from the captains of the mine, which would give the shareholders an idea of the mineral property and prospects of the mine. But he should first tell the meeting that the present directors had taken the place of Mr. Stainby, Dr. Spurgin, and Mr. Hodgson, who had retired from office, and appointed Mr. Hadow, Mr. Tyrie, and himself in their place; and they (the present directors) had since appointed Mr. Carr, who would have been present but for the fact of his having been called away to Paris on business, and had not yet returned. There was a statement of assets and liabilities, but it was not exactly correct, there being some 800l. more due to the company than was represented. A sum of 3600l. was stated to be due for calls, 500l. of which was represented by bill given by Mr. Stainby, and which the directors believed the company would receive. The directors had issued a notice with respect to the forfeiture of shares, which would be fully carried into effect; and if the arrears were not paid by a certain day, the shares would be forfeited. The directors would give the shareholders proper and timely notice of the annual meeting, which would take place in the early part of next month, and they would then lay before the shareholders more satisfactory accounts. There was a statement of the 142nd shaft, which was the former directors seemed to have confided all to Mr. Stainby, and had never looked at the books to see whether they were posted or not; but he now hoped for a better state of things. He could hardly state what the result of the present workings would be, but he believed it would be eventually satisfactory. The directors had intended to have submitted to the meeting a new code of rules and regulations; but they had taken a legal opinion upon the subject, and had found that the present rules were of that peculiar nature that they could not make such alterations without the sanction of every shareholder in the company. The directors would like to hear the opinions of the shareholders on these points, and would pass by-law in accordance with those opinions, which would have the same effect as an alteration of the rules.

The following report of Mr. Hiram Williams was then read:—
The result of reflection, after a thorough investigation made during my late visit to Tincroft Mine will be laid before you in the following remarks, comprised under different heads, to simplify, as far as possible, the exposition of facts bearing upon the future welfare of the company:—

HIGHBURY LODGE.—In the 132nd east of Martin's east shaft, there are several pitches on tribute, varying from 9s. to 12s. 6d. in 12, working from the walls of the lode, the lode having been worked out from surface to the 162, at which rate of tribute the company certainly do not receive an adequate remuneration; therefore, it is one of the departments of operation that will require a close revision, more especially as no selection of ore stuff takes place underground. In the 142nd shaft, which is being sunk to meet the 152; between those two levels the ground remains entire. The 152 has been driven about 60 or 70 yds. east of Martin's east shaft, where the lode looks well; it is about 3 ft. wide, and worth from 8s. 10s. to 9s. 10s. per fathom. On reference to my report of April, 1884, I find that very little has been done in regard to driving the 152 east, while nothing has been done in the western level, and scarcely any progress made with the sinking of Martin's east shaft below the 142. I am, however, of opinion that future profitable workings on this lode must be looked for below the 142. Martin's east shaft is now sunk about 5 fms. below the 152; the lode is from 3 to 3½ ft. wide, and worth about 14s. to 14½ per fathom.

CHAPPEL'S LODGE.—The 142nd west of Martin's shaft, has been driven about 7½ fathoms west of the shaft; the end shows promising symptoms, and is worth from 6s. 10s. to 7s. 10s. per fathom for tin, and should be now pushed on without intermission. In the 130th west of Martin's shaft, the lode is poor and, I may say, unproductive, and is extended some distance beyond the 142nd end. The 120 has been extended still further west than the 130th end, where the lode is about 4 ft. wide, and worth about 12s. per fm.; too great an effort cannot be made in driving the 120, 130, and 140, with the necessary winzes for ventilation, and the stopping of the lode. At about 5 fms. west on this level four tributaries discovered in the side of the old workings, and which are very favourable, and may, I should have observed, which I should have observed, that west of Martin's shaft the whole of the ground on Chapel's lode from the 120 to the 140 is whole, and may, with care, be worked to good profit. In the 110 west, and at the footwall of the lode, some fine rich copper ore is now worked on tribute, at 3s. 6d. in 12; from this quarter of the mine I do not expect a very great continuance, as the ore appears more in bunches than in the shape of a lode, but opinion and reality may differ materially in that respect.

GRAY'S LODGE.—I could not inspect the back of the 60th west of Martin's shaft, owing to the obstructions in the way, but, judging from the nature of the lode as taken from that part of the workings, I should say that its produce was barely saving work, and would advise its discontinuance.

NORTH TINCROFT.—In the 100 west there are two tributaries, at 9s. 6d. and 12s. 6d. in 12; here the lode is about 6 ft. wide, composed of quartz, muncie, and copper; the latter may be looked upon as saving work only, after all costs are paid. In the 110 the end has just passed through a small cross-course, and now presents a poor appearance. A few fathoms from the end a winze is being sunk, and will shortly be on a level with the 130 end; in the winze, however, the lode looks very favourable, and may be worth from 6s. 10s. to 7s. 10s., and costs for sinking 15s. per fm. In the 120 west the end is now approaching the winze coming down from the 110, and seems to be of nearly equal value to the ground in the winze. In the 130 west the end looks remarkably well, and contains good grey copper ore, worth about 4s. 10s. per fm., and is fast approaching an intersection with a winze which is being sunk from the 120. The 130 east is driven but a short way from engine-shaft; the end contains grey copper ore, worth from 24s. to 26s. per fm. In the 142 east the lode is several feet thick, containing both tin and copper, and may be worth from 4s. 10s. to 5s. 10s. per fm., while the price now paid for driving the end is 13s. per fm.

In regard to the underground workings generally, I am strongly of opinion that great economy may be introduced, particularly in the filling of ore ground from the stopes. To each stope there should be proper shoots to receive the broken stuff from the miner, under which the trams should be allowed to pass, so that the trammer may be able to take his tram from shoot to shoot, as occasion may require. Those shoots will, of course, have to be made of timber, but when a stope is worked out can be removed to any other part for use again. By the adoption of such a system much labour will be saved, as also scaffolding for the miner to carry on his work, according to the present plan, and the shafts generally are in a bad condition, and will require, though not immediately, a good deal of outlay to place them in proper repair; it will, however, be a question of cost, as compared against present wear and tear, whether it would not be best to put in cheap and inexpensive guides for the kibles to work in.

In regard to surface operations, I must reiterate the opinion (now become general) which I offered 11 months ago, that a tramroad should be laid from Martin's east shaft, down Martin's shaft, engine-shaft, North Tincroft, and Willoughby's shaft, to a floor at the back of the stamps, for which there is ample room; though this would cost between 2000l. and 3000l., it would effect a saving of at least 4s. per month. There are also many alterations, too numerous to detail, in regard to the process of preparing the tin ore in particular, that requires amendment, and can only be done through the strenuous co-operation of the captains, more especially as they have the daily management of all the different processes which the tinstuff has to undergo. The coals supplied to the mine are of a very inferior quality, delivered at a very high price, and every effort should be made to obtain a superior article for the same, if not at a less cost. There are difficulties in the way, it is true, and which good management must endeavour to overcome. I must strongly urge upon the committee, should the funds of the company permit, to sample only once in every two months. By its adoption a great annual saving will be effected, while its burden will only be felt during the first two months of its coming into operation. I have also to notice that there is no machine for weighing the coals into the company's yard, without which there can be no check upon the quantity delivered; neither is there any certain check as to the consumption of each engine. These are subjects of detail that require the serious consideration of the directors. At present they have to rely upon the accuracy of the invoices sent in, in regard to all articles purchased by weight.—HIRAM WILLIAMS.

The subjoined is the report of the captains:—
March 6.—Highbury lodge, in Martin's east shaft, sinking below the 132 fathom level, is 4½ ft. wide, worth 18s. per fm. for tin. In the 152, driving east of the same shaft, the lode is 3½ ft. wide, worth 9s. per fathom. In the winze sinking below the 142 fathoms level, the lode is 3 ft. wide, worth 6s. per fm. The stopes east of the winze, in the bottom of the 132 fathoms level, are 3 ft. wide, worth 6s. per fathom for tin and copper ore. Chapple's lode in the 142 fathoms level, driving west of Martin's shaft, is 3½ ft. wide, worth 6s. per fm. for tin. In the 120, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 4 ft. wide, worth 13s. per fm. North Tincroft lode, in the 142 fathoms level, driving east of engine-shaft, is 3½ ft. wide, worth 5s. per fm. for tin. In the 140, driving east of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom for tin. In the 130, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 120, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 110, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 100, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 90, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 80, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 70, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 60, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 50, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 40, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 30, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 20, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 10, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom. In the 0, driving west of the same shaft, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 25s. per fathom.

dered by the cross-course, and poor. In the winze sinking below this level the lode is 4 ft. wide, worth 17s. per fm. In the 90 fathoms level, driving east of Willoughby's shaft, the lode is 3 ft. wide, producing low work for tin, and stones of copper ore. Dunkin's lode in the engine-shaft, below the 130 fathoms level, is 2 ft. wide, worth 10l. per fm. for copper.—JOHN THOMAS; WILLIAM SHERRIFF; JAMES ANDREW.

The CHAIRMAN said he had stated the reason why the directors had not been able to prepare any report, and he would now call upon the secretary to read a letter received from Messrs. Barnes and Barnard, solicitors.

Mr. Hadow read the letter referred to, and fully concurred with the opinion expressed. The shareholders, he said, were, under the present constitution of the company, almost powerless; and the first disposition of the present directors was to see if they could not put this company on the Cost-book Principle, but they found that before they could do that they must actually dissolve the company, for they must have the assent of every shareholder; and the only course that could be suggested was to make by-laws, which would give the shareholders virtually some voice in the management of their affairs; that was the only course which the directors could see, short of dissolving the company. The company had, no doubt, been illegally constituted. A protecting, or reserve, fund had been referred to on former occasions, but, in reality, no such fund existed. The directors, he would observe, were self-elected, and a special general meeting could do no act except that of dissolving the company. The by-laws should give power to call meetings every three months, and should also give shareholders the power of advising with and appointing directors. The present directors would be happy to hear any opinion upon this point.

Mr. Youns begged to propose that the appointment of the directors present, and also that of Mr. Carr, be confirmed, and that the nomination of two gentlemen to fill the vacancies be left to the board.

Mr. Hadow wished it to be understood that the shareholders could not elect directors, and, therefore, if the meeting wished to nominate others, the present directors would retire, and elect those who should be nominated by the meeting.

Mr. Kink thought the appointment of the directors ought to be confirmed, as it was a matter which would give them a great moral weight.

Mr. Hodgson thought the meeting ought to ask those gentlemen to give them their services for one year. Mr. Hadow had a great deal of talent, Mr. Tyrie a great deal of energy, and Mr. Field a great deal of something else. (Much laughter.) The question before them was a very simple one—namely, whether they would have six directors, or not?

Mr. Hadow begged to say there was no such question before the meeting. The question was, whether the meeting approved of the present directors remaining in office, or not?

Mr. Hodgson said he was as desirous that the present directors should remain in office as any one present.

Mr. Berry thought it very natural that the present directors, to whom they were all greatly indebted for their valuable services, should feel a desire to be strengthened in their office; and he felt very much disposed to resign everything into their hands. He would, therefore, suggest that the appointment of those gentlemen be confirmed, and that they have power to add two directors to their number.

Mr. Kink was satisfied that that was the unanimous feeling of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN then put the following resolution:—"That this meeting approves of the appointment of the present directors, as made by the former directors."

The chairman repeated that the late directors appointed Mr. Hadow, Mr. Tyrie, and himself, and that they (the present directors) had since appointed Mr. Carr.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. Kink thought that when the directors had time to think upon the subject, they ought to appoint two additional directors.

Mr. Hadow would propose that the arrangement stand in this way. They would have their annual meeting in April, when the directors would be prepared to bring forward two gentlemen to fill the vacancies, and if those gentlemen were approved of by the meeting, they would become directors.

Mr. Berry asked if there was anything to prevent the directors convening a meeting half-yearly?—Mr. Hadow: Nothing.

Mr. Hodgson suggested that the directors pass a by-law, empowering them to convene quarterly meetings. There were good many points which he had not spoken upon; not, however, because there was no answer to them; he wished to reserve himself for the general meeting.

Mr. Payton thought, if they were going to sample their copper ore every two months, they had better hold their meetings every four months—an opinion in which the meeting concurred.

Mr. Hodgson called the attention of the directors to Duncan's portion. A very large sum of money had been sunk on this portion of the property, and great expectations had been held out, so that some person ought to be employed to investigate, and report upon it at the next general meeting. He also directed the attention of the directors to the subject of dues.

The CHAIRMAN assured the honourable proprietor that neither of these points had been lost sight of. The best energies of the directors would be given to the property, and they hoped to bring the mine into a profitable state, and to see dividends before a very lengthened period.

A discussion then ensued as to the forfeiture of shares. Mr. Youns said he would give every opportunity, and ample time, for the payment of calls; but it was, he thought, very important that the shareholders should know whether the company consisted of 5000 or 6000 shares.

The CHAIRMAN quite agreed with Mr. Youns, and assured him that the directors would make the necessary investigation.

Mr. Hadow said there was no difficulty as to their power to forfeit shares; and that power must, of course, be enforced.

Thanks were then voted to the chairman and directors, and the proceedings terminated.

WHEEL CREBOR MINING COMPANY.

An adjourned general meeting of shareholders was held at the company's offices, 117, Bishopsgate-street Within, on Thursday,

Mr. C. LOCKE WEBB in the chair.

The usual preliminaries were gone through, and the following is the report of the committee of management, as adopted:—

Your committee beg to report, that immediately after their appointment, in August last, they instructed Mr. James Wolferstan, of the Bedford United Mine, and Captain Robert Dunstan, of West Caradon Mine, to inspect your property, and they drew the attention of those gentlemen to the prices at which the work in the mine was set, and to the general economy of the operations. Both of these reports were published, and that of Mr. Wolferstan was printed in the circular of the 6th Nov., 1884, and sent to the shareholders. Mr. Wolferstan remarks:—"There is good machinery on the mine, and the ground recommended to be tried is easy and favourable, and it could be proved at a moderate cost. The price of the ore is a good portion of the cost, and if proper economy be exercised, comparatively small further outlay would fully develop the mine, and probably be attended with successful results."

Capt. Dunstan's report is also favourable, and he concludes by stating:—"As regards the machinery and plant, I consider the machinery to be in every respect equal to the efficient working of the mine, and it is fixed in the most economical manner. You have a first-rate water-wheel, which I judge to be equal to a 50-horse engine. The steam-whistle is equal to the drawing and crushing all the stuff, if the mine could be worked at a considerable extent; and the crusher at the lower floors is equal to drawing a large quantity of ore monthly. As to the cost of the mine, it is well found in machinery and plant; and it appears to me that nothing remains for you to make a mine that will pay the outlay but to open ground, which can be done with comparatively little expense."

In October, 1884, the mine was inspected by Capt. Charles Thomas, of Dolcoath Mine, whose recommendations were as follows:—"First, to drive the shallow adit, deep adit, and 13 ft. levels west. The 12 end is now a promising one, and pitches on tribute are now being worked, producing fair quantities of ore close up to both adit ends.—Second, to drive the 34, 34, 44, and 54 ends eastward. The cross-course in that direction, and the ground just driven through in the 14 fathoms level, together with the former production of ore, are, I think, sufficient to induce one to hope that the workings of these levels will prove productive. To carry out the mine in the way now recommended would incur a monthly expenditure above the returns, I estimate, of 1000l. per month. Twelve months' energetic working on this plan would at least show the value of the mine, and most probably lead to satisfactory results."

Your committee would here remind you that the operations at this mine are under the management of Capt. J. Richards, the manager of the Devon Consols, who is well known to possess great practical ability and experience; and your committee consider that this company is fortunate in having the advantage of his superintendence. Your committee beg to draw attention to a letter, dated the 18th instant, received from Captain Richards, which speaks for itself, showing that every exertion is made to carry on the works as economically as possible.

Capt. Richards and Capt. Doble, the agents, recommended the sinking of the engine-shaft 30 fms. deeper, as well as driving the levels east, as referred to by Capt. Thomas, and in this they were supported by Captain Dunstan. Mr. Wolferstan simply recommended the driving the levels east towards the two fine cross-courses in that direction, and within a comparatively short distance of the ends. Your committee, therefore, after consulting the manager and agent, and duly considering the state of the mine, market, and the depreciation in the value of mine investment generally, and taking into account the unanimity of the advice they had received as to driving the level east, resolved to confine the future operation to those points, and also to set all the ground on tribute that could be done. Your committee believe that this plan is the best under the circumstances, and they have every reason to expect it will lead to successful results.

It is satisfactory to your committee to draw attention to the following facts, as showing the progressive improvement of the mine during the last seven months. On the 4th of August, 1884, the estimate of ore in reserve was 306 tons, and on the 31st of March, 1885, the mine showing an increase of 233 tons, besides which, 216 tons 7 cwt. have been sold during the same time, making the total discoveries for the seven months 449 tons. The following are the sales of ore, including the carriage, since March last:—

	1884.	tons.	cwt.	grs.	Amount.
June 22	41	7	3	.....	£327 9 5
August 17	51	15	0	.....	274 1 8
October 19	65	7	2	.....	409 5 11
December 21	71	19	2	.....	403 14 0
February 22, 1885	77	1	2	.....	351 12 9

The quantity in February would have been nearly 100 tons, but for the severe weather, while the quantity sampled on the 9th instant, for one month, is computed 41 tons, being just the quantity sold about eight months ago for two months' raising; and this increase has taken place at the most unfavourable period of the year, when the short days and the weather always greatly interfere with dressing operations, which has been particularly the case in the past winter.

With regard to the costs, your committee would refer to the accompanying abstract of the cost-accounts for the eight months ending January, 1885, by which it will be seen that, as regards the labour, the increase is entirely in the items of tribute and dressing costs, the natural consequence of raising and dressing about double the quantity of ore. The merchant's bill for Dec. and Jan. also show an increase, but this is accounted for by two bills which do not properly come under the head of "monthly" cost; the first of 40l. 15s. 6d., being for castings provided some months before as a reserve against accidents, and the second of 44l. 3s. 3d., being for iron, for the purpose of putting down a railroad in the 44 and 54 fms. levels under the adit, which will lead to greater economy in the working, by saving a considerable amount for wheeling. But in reviewing this question of the costs, the shareholders must bear in mind that the comparison is scarcely a fair one between the fine weather and long days of summer months, and the reverse of the

winter, while in the latter case, the rise in the price of labour, &c., must also be taken into consideration.

On the question of prices paid for materials, your committee have to remark that the rule of the company is to have every article delivered on the mine, and of the quality, at rates which your committee have no hesitation in stating will bear the strictest comparison with those of any mine in the neighbourhood. Indeed, your committee have made the most careful enquiry into the prices paid for material by several of the principal mines in the district, conducted by different managements; and the result is most satisfactory, and shows that in some of the principal items the prices paid by the company are below those paid by any of the other mines. Many of the articles are supplied according to certain fixed rates from the merchants' circulars, as castings, powder, &c.; and the other, such as timber, iron, &c., are generally tendered to the company, and have generally been successful in getting these supplies on reasonable terms, and in some instances, below the market price of the day.

Reverting to the question of costs, the shareholders may be reminded of the depth at which the operations are carried on—namely, 108 fms. from surface, and that, with new and powerful water machinery, this can be done at a saving of at least 50s. per month, in coals, brass, tallow, engine-men, &c., compared with the steam-engine formerly used. It is also important to remember that the steam-engine employed in pumping, until the beginning of last year, was to the extent of 100 horse power, and, however desirable it might be, was incapable of draining the mine to the bottom of the shaft, as is now done; and it is in the levels that could not formerly be reached that the improvements have taken place, although there has not yet been much time to develop the mine in those levels, after having cleared and secured them. The committee may add, that the quantity of stuff raised from the mine is now 1½ to 2½ part more than it was the steam-engine, showing the great increase of the work done, at a positive saving of expense; while not only was it impossible to work the mine, even to the extent it is now, with the steam-engine, but the new machinery is raising the water 30 fms. deeper, as is capable of doing three times her present work, with little additional current expense.

Before leaving the subject of the costs, your committee may mention that, at the request, Mr. Adam Murray visited the mine in January, and carefully investigated the working expenses, and the general economy of the operations; and has since reported verbally to your committee his unqualified approval of the mode in which the mine is being worked, and his high opinion of the prospects. Mr. Murray being a large shareholder, and therefore interested in detecting any extravagance, led your committee to attach additional importance to his report; and they only regret that Mr. Murray's absence from London prevents his attendance at the meeting, to state his views personally. In conclusion, your committee beg to state that they are of opinion that the present state of the mine is highly satisfactory, and that the course which your committee have adopted, of economizing the costs, and seeking to obtain the earliest possible return to the shareholders, will be for the benefit of the undertaking. Your committee have, to the utmost of their ability, sought to advance your interests, a course which they will continue to follow, if you have your confidence. Your committee, as well as their friends, have been very considerably disappointed from the commencement of the company, and still continue so; and, therefore, in protecting your interests, they are not advancing their own. They invite the shareholders to come and examine all their proceedings, with every book and voucher, and they will be satisfied that no effort has been spared towards the proper and economical management of the concern.—CHAIRMAN LOCKE WEBB; J. C. THOMPSON; G. T. CARR, Committee of Wheel Crebor Adventurers.

The CHAIRMAN said that, before moving the adoption of the report, he would make a few observations with regard to the resolution, or, rather, the latter part of it, passed on the 8th inst. In the first place, he doubted whether the meeting had the power of passing that resolution, but merely of adjourning the meeting; considering the bad state of power, he could not see the necessity of advertising it in the *Mining Journal*, or why the shareholders should be put to the expense of advertising what six gentlemen chose to pass as a resolution. One ground of Mr. Legg's complaint was, that the minutes of the committee were not entered in the minute book. To this he would say, that although they might not have been in the minute book, they could be read from the chairman's agenda book, which was the original document, and in only one signed by him and all the others were confirmed, and he thought the complaints of that gentleman might be reduced to the charging of one item in a last cost-sheet that it should have been charged, and as this was for some part of machinery kept in store in case of an accident, and bought on special conditions, he did not think that it was necessary that it should have been charged at an earlier period, the amount was only 40l.; but as Mr. Matthews (the pursuer) was present, he could give any explanation the shareholders required. He then moved that the report be read, and received and adopted.

Mr. HALL, in seconding the motion, said that if one of the directors had been at the meeting the present one would not have been necessary; and although it was one of those shareholders who did attend, he did not see that the public had anything to do with the affairs of the company.

Mr. GILL was of opinion that Mr. Legg had undoubtedly the right to move as to the adjournment of the meeting, or any other resolution, and he thought as it was a general meeting, that resolution ought to have been carried into effect; but, on the other hand, he doubted whether it was prudent to have passed that resolution.

Mr. MATTHEWS explained that the item Mr. Legg alluded to was for some cog-wheel and a crank, purchased of Messrs. Nichols and Co., in January, 1884, on the understanding that they would not send in the bill for six months. They were to keep readiness in case of accidents, to which they had before been subject, in consequence of the steam-engine having to do too much duty, which caused breakages in various parts; and although from their now using the water-wheel the wheels had not been used, he thought they were justified in having them on the mine. They were sent charged until December, but when they were sent in Mr. Nichols said he would send in the account for six months, as he had before said, and the fact was, it was sent in, he believed, until December.

Mr. HALL proposed that all contracts entered into should be put down on the monthly cost-sheets, as that would give the shareholders an idea of their liabilities, whereas in the present instance, they had a liability hanging over them for twelve months, which they knew nothing.

The CHAIRMAN said that there could be no objection to that, and requested Mr. Matthews to do so for the future.

Mr. WEBB, in answer to a question, said that Mr. Adam Murray had never received anything for his services, as he had visited the mine when he was in the neighbourhood, and Mr. Legg did not regret in the least what he had said at the last meeting, as they were now in possession of a full report from the committee of management, and they were not before; he was not, however, going to qualify himself by voting in the adoption of that report, as he did not agree with the expression that there was no ground for the resolution as to the management. With regard to advertising the resolution in the *Mining Journal* of Saturday last, he was one of those who were of opinion that publicity would keep men to their duty, and he was sure that keeping the public in the dark tended more to bring the mine into disrepute than anything else. They were told by the report of the committee, that there was no ground for the resolution; he should, therefore, protest against the report being received and adopted, and requested that his protest might be entered in the cost-book.

Mr. HALL thought the paragraph in reference to Mr. Legg's resolution ought to be struck out, as he contended that a resolution passed at a general meeting ought to be carried out; and as he had never seen the report until that day, he would decline to sign it as it stood, and leave those directors who agreed with it to do so if they pleased.

Mr. THOMPSON stated that he was present yesterday, when Mr. Hallett was having the report read over to him; so that he could not say that he had not seen it. The much discussion ensued, with a view to the cancelling of the objectionable part of the report, and the rescinding of the resolution passed at the last meeting, in which Mr. Legg complained of the report, purporting to be from the committee, as (Mr. Legg) was told that he had not taken ordinary trouble to arrive at correct conclusions, although not one of the committee were present to vote for the truth of such statement.

Mr. TATE did not think it necessary that the committee should attend the general meetings, but merely the committee meetings, to conduct the business of the company, as the secretary, who was a paid servant of the company, was not only able to give the information required, but it was his duty to do so.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, that the committee's report as amended be adopted, which was carried by an immense majority of votes; but it was still mainly agreed, on the suggestion of Mr. GILL, that the committee should be asked to secure unanimity if possible, that the objectionable clause should be cancelled, whereupon Mr. Legg proposed that, as the directors had fully explained the cause of their absence, the resolution passed at the last meeting be rescinded, which proposition was immediately carried.—The meeting terminated with a vote of confidence in the committee, and a request that they would continue their services.

TAMAR MARIA MINING COMPANY.

An adjourned general meeting was held at the offices, 19, Royal Exchange, on Monday,

Mr. SAMUEL WEATHERLEY in the chair.

The SECRETARY read the minutes of the previous meeting, and the following report of Capt. Joseph Hodge, dated March 9:—

The adit end is extended south on the cross-course about 97 fms.; this driving has been on an average of 18° east of south; the depth from surface is now about 38 fms., but we have not yet intersected No. 4 lode. I have, however, made a careful survey, and find that we have now about 9 ft. more to drive to intersect it. Our cross-course is split up from the influence of the lode, I should reconnoitre, so as to be able to drive from the future south-east, as laid down in the rough plan, so as to come under the shaft, and would also recommend that a shaft be immediately sunk down to the adit end on the course of the lode; this would be a guide for future operations, and would well ventilate the mine. I am in daily expectation of cutting the lode, and have every indication to justify that opinion—viz., the conical strata of the ground, a beautiful white killas, highly mineralised; its change during the last month, together with the large body of water coming from the end. When cut, it will be at a great depth from surface (38 fms.); the stuff will be carried away through the adit upon rails already laid down to the end, and I have every confidence that we shall find an ore lode, and have a good mine.—J. HODGE.

The CHAIRMAN said, the object of the adjournment of the last general meeting on this day was the hope that the shareholders might be enabled by this time to congregate each other on interesting No. 4 lode; the disappointment arising from this not being yet reached will doubtless be participated in by every shareholder, but, referring to the late reports from the mine, it will be noticed that every exertion has been made to push the work on, in order that we might this day have discussed prospects, with a full knowledge of its component parts. There is, however, no indication before us that the lode will shortly be met with; in fact, any day may bring the report to hand, in support of which I may refer with some confidence to the satisfaction to the favourable alteration in the character of the ground through which the adit level is being driven; this adit goes into a hill, and is to the highest point of the southern extremity

work for tin. The #8 also is yielding good work—ground easy for driving. The load in the #6 has not been good for the last 3 or 4 fms., but yesterday a favourable change

lode, the nose is yielding a little, or silver-lead ore per ft. In the 120 west, on a large jack lode, the lode is worth \$4. per ft. In the bank of the 120 a rise is put up on the side of the lode to communicate with the winze in the bottom of the 110. In the eastern winze in the bottom of the 110 we are sinking by the side of the lode; the

between 50 and 60 tons on the 27th inst. The general prospects of the market are satisfactory, and we only require a little longer time to open on the ledger in order to have a profitable concern.—J. BAKER: March 10.

WHEAL LUDCOTT.The engine-shaft is sunk 19½ fms. under the adit, in favourable ground. We hope to complete this lift to the 15 by the end of the present month, when we shall immediately commence the cross-cut towards the lode in that level. The eastern lode is at present small, being no more than about 6 in. wide, but regular in its bearing and underlying, and possessing all the characteristics of a lode like to improve in depth.—K. KNAPP: March 15.

WHEAL MARY ANN.—The lode in the 120 fm. level, north of Pollard's shaft, is ft. wide, worth 1½l. per fm.; in the same level south it is 2½ ft. wide, worth 10l. per fm. In the 110 north it is 3½ ft. wide, worth 13l. per fm.; in the same level south it is last reported; in the winze sinking under this level it is 3 ft. wide, worth 9l. per fm. In the 100 north it is 3 ft. wide, worth 12l. per fm.; in the same level south it is 4 ft. wide, worth 14l. per fm. In the 80 north it is 3 ft. wide, worth 8l. per fm.; in the same level south it is 3½ ft. wide, worth 10l. per fm. In the 70 north it is 3 ft. wide, worth 8l. per fm.; under this level south it is 3 ft. wide, worth 12½l. per fm. The winze under the 80, being sunk to the 90, is suspended. Clymo's engine-shaft is sunk 2½ fms. under the 40. The stopes and pitches are producing much as usual. We sold, on the 3d inst., a parcel of lead ore, computed 77 tons, to Messrs. Sims, Williams, and Co., at 22l. 17s. 6d. per ton.—P. CLYMO, jun.; H. HODGE; R. KNAPP: March 15.

WHEAL MAULDIN.—The lode in the bottom of the engine-shaft is still a strong cosman, with sometimes very hard ribs, like all other strong gossans; but, on the whole, the sinking is progressing very satisfactorily. In the 20 end east the lode appearing to have been hove by the cross-course, we have begun to drive south in search of it: as this point is the utmost eastern extremity at which the lode has yet been seen, it is very important that it should be reached, especially as the ground is unalloyed copper, and the vein or mass which is usually met here, the northern one, does not appear. It may probably be ultimately necessary to drive a little each way, as it is uncertain which way the lode may be hove; meanwhile we have taken that direction in which, according to all precedent, it is most likely to be found. There are two men securing and making good the back above the 20 (so high as the tributers had risen), for the proposed rise. There are no alterations in the pitches from my last: none of the men in the pitch above deep adit having been hurt last week, the progress there is not so good as it would have been.—W. THORAY: March 10.

WHEAL BUSSELL.—We have not met with the lode in driving the 62 fm. level across-cut, south of Matthew's shaft; consequently, we have suspended it, supposing it to be shifted by the slide in the opposite direction. We have since driven north a short distance, where we have met the cross-course, and produced portions of copper ore; we intend now driving west on its bearing. The driving of the 50 fm. level was continued; the lode in the present end is 1 foot wide, worth ¾ ton of ore per fathom. We continue to drive north on the cross-course in the 50 fm. level; small branches, containing copper, are being met with, which I consider to be favourable indications. We continue to stop the back of the 50 fm. level, west of the cross-course, which is at present worth 2¼ tons of ore per fm. We continue to drive the 37 fm. level east, I am glad to say we have a further improvement in this level since last report, the lode at present being from 3 to 4 feet wide, worth all of four tons per fm. I should say the present position of the lode extends beyond the 50, and quite in accordance with our ground to the surface. The driving of the 90 fm. level north on the cross-course, east of Richard's shaft, has been resumed since the favourable change in the weather. The cross-course still produces good stones of ore, and the ground driving through has a very encouraging appearance. The pitches are still yielding fair quantities of ore.—A. BARNETT: March 15.

WHEAL TREDHY.—Yesterday being our monthly setting, we took the summen from driving the 80 fm. level to cut ground for a dam, and to fix a lift and rode from the 80 to the 60 fm. level. In about 10 or 12 days we shall resume the sinking of the diagonal shaft below the 80. The 80 west is set to four men; the lode is 1 foot wide, producing 1½ ton of ore per fm., and still letting out much water; it has drained the water 30 fms. above. In the 70 west the north part of the lode will turn out 1 ton of good ore per fm. up to the 80 level. The 70 is suspended until next week, after we sink a winze to the 70, to open on the lode, and to give ventilation to the 50 west the lode is 1½ ft. wide, with stones of ore. We expect to communicate the rise from the 30 to the winze from the 20, east from the western shaft, about the middle of next week, and shall drive the 30 south on the cross-course to cut the eastern part of the lode.—On Wednesday we hope to sample about 30 tons of ore.—DANIEL LANCKSBURY: March 10.

WHEAL TREBARVAH.—The 50 fm. level has been driven east from flat-rod shaft 4 fms.; the lode in the present end is 2 ft. wide, worth 25l. per fm. for copper ore; the western end is driven about the same distance; the lode here is 9 in. wide, yielding some good ore. The lode in the end of the 40 fm. level, east of fat-rod shaft, is ft. wide, worth 8l. per fm.; the lode is extended about 2 fms. beyond the winze sink, and also along the side of the lode, and is accompanied with rich copper ore, or two, after which we shall be able to resume the 30 end, and work some tribute pitches to a much greater advantage. The lode in the winze in the 20 west is without alteration. We have 12 men working on tribute, at an average of 6s. in 17, who are likely to get good wages at their respective tributaries.—S. OSOBNICK, Jun.: March 13.

WHEAL TREFUSIS.—Engine Lode: In the 44 west the lode is 10 in. wide, yielding ¾ ton of copper ore per fm. In the 34 west the lode yields stones of copper ore. In the 24 west the lode is small and unproductive.—Field's Lode: The 15, east of Boundary shaft, yields 2 tons of copper ore per fm., worth 12l. per fm. The rise in back of the 15, east of Boundary shaft, yields 1 ton copper ore per fm., worth 5l. All ground opened on in this part of the mine is good tribute ground.—Gordon Lode: The 10, east of Reynolds' shaft, is much the same as last reported.—Blackley's Lode: In the 10 east the lode is small and poor. The tribute pitches are still yielding much the same quantity of tinstuff as of late.—Z. CARKER: March 14.

WHEAL TRELAWNY.—Smith's engine-shaft is now sunk 6 ft. on the underlie; we shall at once proceed to put in bearer and cieters, and fix the lift now standing in the 08 on the bottom of the docht. In this level, in the north end, a slide, underlying the lode, is about 6 feet thick, and holds any size iron bar, while the lode itself lies at about right angles; it is unusable above me in East, but, from present appearance, has by no means injured its quality; the south end in this level is in decomposed killas, but not without ore. In the 98, north end, the lode is 3 ft. wide, and worth 7l. per fm. In the same level, south end, it is worth 8l. per fathom. We have commenced to sink a winze in the bottom of this level, to communicate with the level below, where the lode has not, as yet been taken down. Clippendale's shaftmen have finished their bargain, putting in penthouse, &c., and have sunk 6 ft. below the 48; the lode is not taken down; in the north end, the lode is new stuff, and is well made, and worth 7l. per fathom. The 78 west, at this time, he is suspended; the lode in it is small, and worth 7l. per fathom. The 40 we are still driving north on the course of the lode, but have not, as yet, met with any ore.—South Mine: In the 120, south end, the lode is worth 15l. per fathom; in the north end we are driving in killas by the side of the lode. In the 107 the lode has not been taken down in the south end since last reported; in the north end in this level the lode is some 20 in. wide, in can, with spots of lead throughout; in the rise in the back of the 92 the gray part of the lode is 2 feet wide, and worth 7l. per fathom. In our stopes and pitches we have no alteration to notice; only, since the present management, the tribute department has been enlarged, and we hope that the result of this may have a good effect.—J. GREENEILL; W. JENKINS: March 14.

WHEAL TREMAYNE.At the boundary engine-shaft in the 103 cast, on Allen's branch, the branch is worth 8l. per fm. At the slope back of the same level, it is worth 7l. per fathom. The stope in the back of the 93, east and west of Allen's shaft, on Allen's branch, are worth 8l. per fm. In the 83, east of the same shaft, on Allen's branch, the branch is worth 3l. per fm. The stopes in the back of the 73, east of the same shaft, on Allen's branch, are worth 14l. per fm. In the 63 cross-cut, north of Allen's branch, east of the same shaft, there is no change to notice since last report; the stope in back of same level, east of shaft, on Allen's branch, is worth 6l. per fathom. The stope in back of the 53, east of the same shaft, on Allen's branch, are worth 8l. per fathom. In the 43, east of the same shaft, on Allen's branch, the branch is worth 4l. per fathom. On the main engine-shaft, the lode in the 40 west, the ground is rather harder for driving. In the 50, east of fat-rod shaft, on the same lode, the lode is 18 in. wide, composed of flookan, spar, and mundle. The men belonging to this level are now engaged rising in back of the same for ventilation, where the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing tones of tin; in the same level, west of cross-cut, the lode is 3 ft. wide, worth 4l. per fm.; the stope in the back of the same level is worth 3l. per fathom. The stope in the back of the 40, east of the same shaft, is worth 2l. per fm. In the winze sinking under the 30, east of middle shaft, on the same lode, the lode is 2½ ft. wide, worth 4l. per fm. In the 30, west of the lode, the lode is best whinited stone, on the same lode, the lode is still disorderly. Hosking's shaft on the center lode is communicated with the 30, and the men belonging to this level are now engaged cutting pit and driving the level; the lode in the end is 1 foot wide, yielding stones of copper ore, with a kindly appearance.—R. WILLIAMS; H. ROGERS: March 10.

WHEAL UNITY.—The 82 and 70 fm. levels continuing without material alteration since my last report. The rise in the back of the 60 is up between 4 and 5 fms., and opening tribute ground. I regret to say that we have rather a heavy job to contend with at No. 2 shaft, the large ground requiring to be close timbered from the 30 to the 50 fm. level. We have 12 men engaged in this operation, and hope to complete it shortly. The lode in the 30 end, nearing to the Clawence counter, is still large; the part exposed is 18 in. wide, worth 10l. per fm. The rest of the level is a fine appearance.—VIVIAN: March 12.

WHEAL WHITEGLIEF.In reporting on this mine, we beg to convey that we consider the prospect just such as at the last meeting, but because of consequence of having met with great deal of heavy flookan grain in the lode, and by the slide thereof, it has retarded our operations, and added to the expenditure. We have driven on the lodes in the 72 about 25 fms., nearly all of which is through good grey ground; but the ends at present are composed chiefly of flookan, which has impoverished the lode for the moment. We found it necessary oppose the engine-shaft to sink a winze from the 62 to the 73, for ventilation, which has enabled us to work the backs to better advantage, and to deposit rubbish coming from the 62 in the excavation below, from where the ores are being brought, thereby saving the expense of winz-drawing. It has also enabled us to extend the engine-shaft towards the 82, where we wish to sink the lode in another ten months, the shaft being now 5 fms. under the 73. The severe weather and frost have very much retarded our dressing and preparing the ore for the market; nevertheless, we hope to have 30 tons ready for sampling in about a month. We find the ores of a peculiar kind, being a rich soft ore, disseminated in patches through a mass of various combinations, which require crushing for separation, amongst which there is a large proportion of siliceous and calcareous; consequently, as the ore gives away first, and become reduced finer than is necessary or profitable for such rich natured ores, we have had the greatest difficulty recently presented in obtaining a sufficient amount of washings carried off by the washing water. We would also add that the ore in the lower divisions seems to grow more compact than it upwards, and there is now every appearance of an increase as we sink in the mine. Nor do we despair of meeting with other shoots of ore, as we lengthen the underground workings, particularly southward, where the lode in the 62 end is exceedingly promising, being composed of more siliceous, and less flookan—a congenial character for producing ore. Therefore, looking at the prospects generally—from ores laid open, and those in perspective—it appears to us very desirable that we should farther extend the level, and by commencing with other shoots of ore, an additional bunch only being required to make the mine payable.—J. PECKER; J. GROSS: March 11.

WHEAL WREX CONSOLS.—The engine-shaft is sunk 9 fathoms 5 feet under the 23 fm. level. The lode in the present end is 1½ ft. wide, producing 1 ton of lead per fm.; in the same level north it is 1½ ft. wide, producing 1 ton of lead per fm. In the 12 north it is 2 ft. wide, at pre-sent unproductive, but, from its kindly appearance, we daily expect an improvement here. The stopes are producing much as usual. We have, this day, sold a parcel of lead ore, computed 50 tons, at 16l. 7s. per ton.—PETER CLYMO, jun.; W. HAMCOCK; R. BOSNELL: March 14.

WHEAL ZION.We have nothing of importance to report in our 80 fm. level cross-cut south; in consequence of the great flow of water from the end, our progress in driving is not so expeditious as we should wish. In the 66 cross-cut south, towards the middle lode,

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, March 16, 1855.

COPPER.			BRASS (sheets).....p. lb.		
Sheathing and bolts ..p. lb.	0 1 2		Wire	1 0 6 d.	
Bottoms	0 1 3		Foreign	23 5 0-23 10 0	
Old (Exchange)	0 1 0 1/2		To arrive	23 12 6	
Best selected	129 0 0		In sheets	29 0 0	
Tough cake	126 0 0		TIN.		
Tin	126 0 0		English, blocks	114 0 0	
South American	126 0 0		Ditto, Bars (in barrels)	115 0 0	
IRON.			Ditto, Refined	111 0 0	
*Bars, Welsh, in London	8 10 0-8 0 0		Banca	107 0 0	
*Ditto, to arrive	7 10 0-7 15 0		TIN-PLATES.		
*Nail rods	8 10 0		IC Charcoal, 1st qua. p. bx. 1	1 10 0-1 11 0	
*Stafford, in London	8 10 0		Ditto 2d quality	1 8 0-1 9 0	
*Bars, ditto	8 10 0-9 10 0		IC Ditto 2d quality	1 14 0-1 15 0	
*Hoops, ditto	9 2 6-10 0 0		IC Coke	1 6 0-1 7 0	
*Sheets, single	9 10 0-11 0 0		IC Coke	1 12 0-1 13 0	
*Fig. No. 1, in Wales	4 15 0-5 5 0		Canada plates	14 0 0-15 0 0	
Refined metal, ditto	6 10 0-7 0 0		In London; 20s. less at the works.		
Bars, common, ditto	6 10 0-7 0 0		Yellow Metal Sheathing ..p. lb. 11 1/2 d 1s		
Ditto, railway, ditto	6 5 0-6 10 0		Wetterstedt's Pat. Met. ..p. wt. 2 3 0		
Ditto, Swedish, in Lond. 14	0 10-15 10 0		Stirling's Non-lamina-		
Fig. No. 1, in Clyde	2 18 0-2 19 0		ting, or Hardened	9 0 0-9 2 0	
LEAD.			Surface Ralls ..p. ton		
English Pig	21 10 0-22 0 0		Stirling's Patent	5 5 0	
Ditto sheet	23 0 0-23 10 0		Toughened Pigs	4 0 0-4 5 0	
Ditto red lead	23 10 0		Ditto	4 0 0-4 5 0	
Ditto white	27 10 0-28 0 0		Indian Charcoal Pigs	6 10 0	
Ditto patent shot	25 10 0		In London		
Spanish, in bond	21 0 0-22 0 0				
American	none.				
FOREIGN STEEL.					
Swedish, in kegs ..p. ton	18 10 0-19 0 0				
Ditto, in bags	18 10 0-19 0 0				
English, Spring	23 0 0-24 0 0				
QUICKSILVER	p. lb. 11s 11d				

* In Liverpool, 5s. per ton less. + In Liverpool, 10s. per ton less.
 At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less. In Liverpool, 6d. per box less.

REMARKS.—The changes in our market have been mostly of a trifling character, and do not require any particular notice.

COPPER.—The demand continues steady, with no alteration in value. IRON.—In English there has been but little doing; prices have again given way, sales having been made to-day at 6l. 10s. f.o.b. at the works, and 7l. 10s. for delivery f.o.b. in London, and 7l. 5s. f.o.b. in Liverpool. The demand for Staffordshire qualities is inactive. Scotch pigs have been very quiet; since Monday a gradual improvement in price has taken place, sellers quoting on 'Change to-day 57s. 6d., mixed numbers, g.m.b., f.o.b. in the Clyde.

LEAD.—Business is limited; prices as before. SPLITTER.—During the week, a few hundred tons have changed hands, partly for consumption in Birmingham; the market, however, is still flat, and on 'Change there was some offering at 23l. 2s. 6d.—best sellers generally quote 23l. 10s. nominal.

TIN.—English quiet at former rates. Banca is in a little better demand, and prices have an upward tendency. Our market appears bare of stock, and the largest holders quote 111l. for any quantity. The market is better supplied with Straits, but of a very indifferent quality; most of the parcels recently arrived are mixed.

TIN-PLATES have slightly declined. STEEL AND QUICKSILVER.—No alteration.

GLASGOW, MARCH 15.—Since last report the market for pig-iron has been characterised by great dullness, but prices have rather stiffened, the quotations for warrants to-day being 57s. to 57s. 6d. per ton. The shipments for last week show the first considerable decrease from last year, being 2000 tons less. To-day's quotations are—No. 1, Gartsherrie, 61s.; No. 2, g.m.b., 58s.; No. 3, g.m.b., 57s. Shipments for the week ending 10th March:—Foreign, 2718 tons; coastwise, 7632 tons=10,350 tons. In the corresponding week of 1854, they were—Foreign, 2359 tons; coastwise, 9974 tons=12,333 tons.

Mr. Thomas Edington has furnished us with the following, as the list of contracts given out at Glasgow during January and February:—4300 tons water pipes, for Liverpool; 3000 to 4000 tons water pipes, for Chelsea; 300 to 500 tons gas pipes, for Hamilton; a quantity of water pipes, for Shipley, Bradford; 215 tons fish plates, bolts, and spikes, for the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway; a quantity of furnace castings, hydrants, &c., for the Ryde Water Works; 50 tons water pipes, &c., for Swansea; 900 yards water pipes, for Worcester; tank and gasholder, &c., for Preston; gasholder, tank, and pipes, &c., for Amersham; 30 gas pillars and brackets, for Lismore, Ireland; 3 miles of water pipes, for Leeds; 500 tons water pipes, for Strathgairn; gasholder, for Bury, Lancashire; gasholder, tank, &c., for Faversham; 367 gas pipes, &c., for Hastings; gasholder, &c., for Southampton; iron-bridge, for Battle-bridge, Essex; chairs for 2000 tons of rails, for Great Northern Railway; 11,700 yards water pipes, &c., for Clitheroe; 560 tons water pipes, for London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway; railway chairs for 2000 tons of rails, for North-Eastern Railway; gasholder, pipes, &c., for Bethesda, near Bangor; 1000 tons chairs, &c., for Nova Scotia Railway Company; very large quantities of cast-iron cannon, mortars, shot, and shells, for Government; cast-iron cannon, shot, and 2300 tons railway chairs for the East Indies; railway chairs for Canada. The following contracts are likely to be given out during 1855:—Water pipes, for Melbourne; water pipes, for Lichfield, Walsall, Wednesbury, Bilston, Darlaston, Willenhall, Sedgely, Tipton, West Bromwich, Rowley Regis, Dudley, and Oldbury; chairs, &c., for the Rhymney Railway Company, South Wales; water pipes, for Hamilton, Canada West, and other towns in Canada; additional chairs, wagon wheels, axles, &c., for Nova Scotia Railway Company; chairs, &c., for extensive railways in South Australia; iron-cannon, shot, gates, railings, &c., for East Indies, water pipes, for Loch Katrine Scheme; additional quantities of cast-iron cannon, mortars, shot, and shells, for the Government; gas pipes, &c., for Calcutta, Valparaiso, Liverpool, Haverhill, Beccles, &c.; water pipes, for Wallasey, Grantham, Grimsby, Kelsey, Beccles, Halifax, &c.; additional railway chairs for the East Indies, Canada, &c.

LIVERPOOL, MARCH 15.—The demand for manufactured iron continues light, and there seems little prospect of an early improvement. The last American steamer brought intelligence of an intended reduction of duty on metals of 30 to 24 per cent. Should the measure become law, it will not come into operation before next July. Meantime, the effect must be to stop shipments. Pig-iron has been much neglected this week, and has not fluctuated more than 1s. per ton. During the recent rise the makers were free sellers, and will, no doubt, be so again, should prices be forced up by jobbers. We quote mixed numbers warrants to-day 57s. 6d. The market quite lifeless.

PARIS.—A better feeling prevails in our market than has been observed for some time, and although prices have not materially improved, holders appear to have more confidence. From St. Didier, they write that their market is full of activity, and that their prospects are decidedly improving. With regard to the Belgian markets, we learn that the fall which has taken place in iron in England has not as yet had any influence on that market, and prices are maintained with much firmness.

CHARLEROI, MARCH 15.—We have but little to add (says the *Journal de Charleroi*) to the information already published; we can merely state that the prices are maintained with great firmness. It is rumoured that an important contract has been concluded by the *usine de Thy-le-Château* with Piedmont. The news received to-day from France is decidedly favourable. Ores are scarce, and much in demand; prices remain firm. Our coal mining interest has regained the activity it enjoyed before the first interruption of the navigation, and now that the Sambre and the Brussels Canal are entirely free from all stoppages, numerous loaded vessels are daily leaving here, both for France and the interior. The activity in the coal trade continues, notwithstanding the rise in prices.

MINES.—The mining market has been particularly flat this week for shares in general, whilst for one or two of the mines mostly in demand, such as Graveland, St. Aubyn, South Frances, and others, no sellers are to be found. The principal feature of the week has been the renewed attempt to establish auctions for the sale of mining shares, the first, or "trial" sale, having come off on Wednesday. As to the effect these sales will have upon mining generally, there are so many and such conflicting opinions, that we scarcely know what to think upon them, and shall watch with some interest the results of a few more trials. So far as the first has gone, we believe it is generally considered as a failure, the prices obtained for shares being in many cases 50 per cent. below quoted, and a few days since marketable prices. Much has been said about having a regular and open market for shares, but upon looking over the list of prices realised on Wednesday, and which will be found in another column, it would appear that the public, or the holders of mining stock, will have to pay rather dear for the privilege, if all prices at which shares are "knocked down" are to be taken as market prices. There is, as we have before observed, a fashion in mining, and the favourite shares of the day are only such as will readily sell. A good lode discovered, or an important improvement in any level, quickly renders saleable shares which previously were a drug, and to attempt to force shares where there is no demand for them, is as useless as a draper expecting to get a full price for his winter goods in the height of summer. Such being the case, we are inclined to think speculative mines will suffer most at these sales. As an instance, we may mention that North Downs, which a few days previously were saleable at 2l. per share, were, through there being no demand, knocked down to a dealer at 17s. 6d. per share; the mine, therefore, without any material change, is thus depreciated in market value to the extent of 2000l. Herodsfoot, with machinery upon it valued at 4000l., and returning good quantities of lead, was knocked down at 2l. 10s. per share, or about half the value of the bare plant.

Among shares sold in the regular market, Graveland and St. Aubyn

have reached 35l., 37l. 10s.; Sortridge Consols have advanced to 2l. 7s. 6d., to 2l. 12s. 6d.; East Bassot, 30l.; Devon Great Consols, 370l. to 375l.; Stray Parks have risen to 8l. 10l., shares a few weeks since unsaleable at 3l.; Cliphall and Wentworth, 15l.; Wheel Wrey, 4l. 12s. 6d. to 4l. 17s. 6d.; Trefusis, 12l. to 13l.; Alfred Consols, 14l. 7s. 6d. to 14l. 12s. 6d.; West Damels in demand, at 105l.; East Pool, 100l.; South Frances, 320l. to 330l. We are authorised to state, in reference to an enquiry of last week, how it was that Capt. Richards had not inspected Sortridge Consols, according to the arrangement made by the shareholders at the last meeting, that his inspection of this mine took place some time since, and that his report may be seen by any shareholder at the offices of the company. As the report, in addition to the prospects of the mine, referred to a piece of ground which it was considered necessary to obtain, the committee of management did not think it prudent to publish it. Negotiations for this ground are now pending, and we hope and trust they will end satisfactorily, and render it needless for us to refer more particularly to the circumstances attending it. The chairman of the committee deserves the thanks of the shareholders for the spirited manner in which he has taken the matter up; yet, we still think every shareholder should have been made acquainted with the contents of Captain Richards' report immediately it was received, and we do not say this merely because it would show the truth of our remarks upon the local management.

The Cwmtywath Mining Company declared a dividend of 5l. per share (640l.) on Wednesday.

At West Wheel Damsel meeting, on Monday, the accounts for Dec. and Jan. showed—Balance last account, 734l. 18s. 8d.; ores sold (less dues), 1570l. 6s. 11d. =2325l. 5s. 7d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 973l. 16s. 4d.—By dividend of 2l. per share (512l.): leaving balance in hand, 839l. 9s. 3d.

At West Wheel Bassot meeting, on Wednesday, the accounts showed—Balance from last audit, 4533l. 11s. 7d.; advance on tribute, 450l.; copper ore sold, 7921l. 10s. 11d.;—merchants' bills, 2s. 6d.—Dividend declared, Jan. 17, 3000l.—Labour cost, 2464l. 8s. 5d.; merchants' bills, 1028l. 2s. 8d.; tribute advances, 737l. 12s. 10d.; royalty, 173l. 12s. 9d.; on account of new engine, 1000l.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 4476l. 16s. A dividend of 10s. per share was declared. Captain W. Roberts gave a very elaborate report, in which he particularised every part of the mine in which operations were being carried on, and concluded by stating that the prospects of the mine had improved within the last week.

At Prigant Consols meeting, on the 8th inst. (Mr. De Burgh Birch in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 592l. 0s. 9d.—Paid J. R. Whitehead, 32l. 16s. 3d.; cost, Jan. 53l. 1s. 7d.; Feb. 31l. 0s. 2d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 473l. 2s. 9d. Capt. W. Roberts reported that they were continuing the workings in the level and on the lode west, and they daily expected to be in possession of something good from the nature of the ground. Their men were working twelve hours a day.

At Wheel Crebor adjourned general meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. C. Loocke Webb in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 25l. 7s. 4d.; calls received, 594l. 7s. 6d.; ores sold, 386l. 12s. 3d.; interest, 8d.—1000l. 7s. 9d.—Monthly cost account, 657l. 10s. 4d.; office expenses and committee, 27l. 4s. 11d.; dues, 54l. 19s. 4d.; printing, 7l. 13s.; interest and discount on loans and calls, 5l. 16s. 2d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 245l. 4s. This balance was composed of cash in Commercial Bank, 77l. 15s. 1d.; Devon and Cornwall Bank, 17l. 11s. 5d.; calls in arrear, 149l. 17s. 6d. The estimated amount of liabilities over assets was 88l. 3s. 2d. The report of the committee of management was read, and it was ultimately arranged (on the suggestion of Mr. Hancock, the solicitor of the company), that the resolution passed at the meeting on the 18th inst. should be rescinded, when a vote of confidence in the committee terminated the proceedings. A detailed report will be found in another column.

At Mendip Hills Mining Company meeting, held yesterday, at Salvador House (Mr. E. H. Barwell in the chair), extraordinary disclosures were made with regard to the conduct of the late manager, who, it appeared, had appropriated to his own purpose the whole of the cash (3000l.) in his hands, and, in addition, three bills of exchange, each of which was drawn for 500l. odd. A case has been laid before counsel, who has expressed a decided opinion that there is ground for a charge of embezzlement and felony. The late manager appeared yesterday at the Court of Bankruptcy, to make an application for an adjournment for fourteen days, which was granted. His balance-sheet shows liabilities, 48,000l.; and assets, 30,000l.; but the latter are said to be considerably overrated and problematical. The appointment of Messrs. Webb, Wood, and Munday as a committee, and to whom the chairman expressed himself deeply indebted, was confirmed. No decisive steps will be taken until after the late treasurer's examination before the Court of Bankruptcy, and the meeting was adjourned to the 18th April, to be held at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill. In the interim, transfers are to be sent to Mr. Barwell, on the mine, and Mr. Munday will take charge, gratuitously, of the cost-sheets, which may be seen at his offices, 75, Old Broad-street. An unusual press of matter prevents our giving the proceedings in detail, but a full report will appear in our next Journal.

At Wheel Whitehall meeting, on the 6th inst. (Mr. J. C. Roberts in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 819l. 15s. 4d.; mine cost, July to Jan, 1137l. 5s. 2d.; merchants' bills, 547l. 11s. 1d.—2504l. 11s. 7d.—Calls received, 1375l. 18s. 5d.; ore sold, 439l. 2s. 6d.; discount, 1l. 18s. 10d.; leaving balance against adventurers, 697l. 11s. 10d. A call of 2s. 6d. per share was made, and a resolution unanimously passed to hold the meetings in future at the office of the London secretary. Capt. J. Puckey and John Grose reported that they had driven on the lode in the 72 to 25 fms., nearly all of which was through good ore ground. The severe weather and frost had very much retarded the dressing and preparing the ores for the market; nevertheless, they hoped to have 30 tons ready for sampling in about a month. Looking at the prospects generally, from ores laid open and those in prospect, it appeared to them desirable that they should further extend the levels, with a view of meeting other shoots of ore, an additional bunch only being required to make the mine profitable.

At Tincroft Mining Company meeting, on Thursday (Mr. J. Field in the chair), the appointment of Messrs. Field, Hadow, Tyrie, and Carr, as directors, was unanimously confirmed. The chairman said that the statement of assets and liabilities which had been given to them was not quite correct, there being about 800l. due to the company more than was represented. There was considerable legal difficulty in altering the present rules; but it was the intention of the directors to frame bye-laws, which would have the same effect as an alteration of the rules. Reports were read from Mr. Hiram Williams and the captains of the mine, who speak in sanguine terms of North Tincroft, and other parts of the property. [A full report of the meeting will be found in another column.]

At the Craigwen Mine meeting, yesterday (Mr. Metzler in the chair), the accounts showed—Capital, 6000l.; amount received in respect of shares subsequently forfeited, 32l. 10s.; loan, 150l.; balance due on November, December, January, and February cost, 303l. 8s. 8d.; pursuer, for petty disbursements, 6l. 7s. 7d.—6400l. 6s. 3d.—Purchase of lease, 3000l.; machinery, plant, &c., 500l.; mine cost from April, 1853, to February, 1855, 2119l. 17s. 7d.; rent of mine, 417l. 14s. 2d.; office expenses, &c., 372l. 15s. 4d.; leaving balance credit, 79l. 19s. 2d. Resolutions were passed to issue the remaining shares to raise capital to prosecute the mine, and that 4000l. be raised by that means in new shares of 1l. each, to be offered, rateably, to the existing shareholders, payable by eight instalments of 5s. 6d. each, at intervals of not less than three months. Messrs. Harris, Metzler, Spinyer, and Harding were elected the committee of management; and the ore, estimated at about 10 tons, was directed to be prepared and sold. The proceeding terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At the Keswick Mining Company meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. Alex. Graham in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last meeting, 32l. 17s. 10d.; calls received, 735l. 10s. 6d.; ore sold, 570l.; loan, Alexander Graham, Esq., 490l.—1818l. 8s. 4d.—On account of costs, 1150l.; Glynn and Co., loan, 300l.; A. Graham, ditto, 225l. 13s. 3d.; interest, secretary's salary, and sundries, 58l. 13s. 10d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 87l. 3s. 3d. Liability over assets, 1068l. 18s. 4d. A call of 2s. per share was made. Capt. R. B. Shepherd reported that the Brandey Mine was on the whole, looking well; at the Thornthwaite Mine, the water was now down to the 27 fm. level, and as soon as it was out of the mine he would again urge them to come to some conclusion respecting the closing of the mine; and at Barrow Mine they had cut the vein, but were not up to the place where they looked for ore. They were "in daily expectation of meeting something."

At Devon and Cornwall United Mines meeting on the 8th inst., the accounts showed—Balance from last account, 367l. 0s. 11d.; mine cost for December, 169l. 9s. 10d.; January, 171l.; merchants' bills, &c., 64l. 3s. 6d.—771l. 14s. 3d.—Ores sold, 101l. 6s. 11d.; calls received, 424l. 18s. 6d.; leaving balance against mine, 168l. 4s. 8d. A call of 5s. per share was made. Capt. Thomas Neill reported that in the middle level the lode in the east end was about 5 ft. wide, and worth full 5 tons of good ore per fm. He hoped to sample by the end of the present month 50 tons.

At Wheel Brewer meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts for eight months February showed—Balance from last account, 34l. 16s. 3d.; costs, &c., 304l. 10s. 6d.—339l. 15s. 9d.—By ores sold (less dues), 147l. 9s. 3d.; call in August, 256l.; leaving balance against mine, 69l. 6s. 6d. A call of 1l. per share was made.

At North Boscare meeting, on Monday, the accounts for December and January showed—By ores sold, 3029l. 2s. 11d.—Balance from last account, 19l. 9s. 4d.; costs and merchants' bills, 2861l. 7s. 7d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 145l. 6s.

At Trethellan Mine meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts for eight months ending February showed—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 1118l. 6s.—By balance from last account, 114l. 15s. 11d.; ores sold, 762l. 8s. 6d.; leaving balance against adventurers, 241l. 1s. 7d. A call of 3l. per share was made.

At West Trethellan Mine meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts for eight months ending February showed—Balance from last account, 34l. 3s. 4d.; costs, &c., 282l. 7s. 8d.—356l. 11s.—Ores sold, 94l. 11s. 9d.; call in August, 120l.; leaving balance against adventurers, 151l. 19s. 3d. A call of 2l. per share was made.

At East Boscare Mine meeting, on the 9th inst., the accounts showed—Balance against adventurers' liabilities account (Nov. 16), 648l. 15s.; mine cost from Oct. to Jan., 402l. 16s. 9d.; carriage, 167l. 18s. 10d.; merchants' bills, 306l. 5s. 1d.—1574l. 15s. 5d.—By call of 20s. per share (Nov. 16), 1024l.; leaving balance against adventurers, 350l. 15s. 8d. A call of 1l. per share was made. [The report, from Capt. Goldsmith and Higgins, is among the Mining Correspondence.]

At the Nant-ar-Nelle Mine quarterly meeting, on Friday, the accounts showed a balance of 35l. 2s. against the adventurers. The mine was increased to 2500 shares, and a call of 2s. per share made.

At the East Trelawny Mine meeting, at Liskard, on Tuesday, a statement of accounts was produced, and a call made sufficient to defray the liabilities, and provide for the next two months' cost. Captain Scotcombe's report is among the British Mines.

Foxdale, Newtonards, Wheel Wrey, and Trowetha, have sold lead ore. Balleswidened United, St. Austell Consols, Boscare, Drake Wells, and West Wheel Trow, have sold black tin.

Great Wheel Vor has sold a parcel of black tin, 19 tons 8 cwt., realising 1192l. 2s. 2d., the result of ten days' dressing since the breaking up of the frost. On Metal lode, in the 68, they have cut a great rush of water, which is regarded with much interest, as it is expected to be the forerunner of a continuation of the rich course of ore met in the 40, 50, and 60 fm. levels, on the same lode.

St. Austell Consols sold, last week, nickel and cobalt ores, producing 410l. 5s. 5d.; also black tin, 102l. 13s.—512l. 14s. 5d.

Round Hill Mine sold 8 tons of lead ore on Monday.

Hope Valley Mine sold 30 tons of lead ore, on Monday.

At Holmbush Mines, 327 tons 15 cwt. of copper ore was weighed the 9th inst. The new lead lode is producing 8 cwt. of silver-lead ore per ton and promising well.

Great Onslow Consols sampled 118 tons of ore on the 5th inst., and have from 250 to 300 tons more on the mine already broken.

Sortridge Consols sampled, on the 9th inst., 70 tons of rich copper ore.

At Wendron Consols, a beautiful tin lode, 3 ft. wide, has been cut.

From East Wheel Vor, Capt. J. Phillips reports that they have made the February instaf—821 sacks, and find, after carefully assaying the whole, they have raised 212l. worth of tin. On Wednesday next, they expect to sell 1 ton of black tin.

From Wheel Surprise, Capt. A. and F. W. Bray report that a vein had been sunk in the bottom of the deep adit level, 11 fms. on the course of the lode where they had broken some magnificent specimens of black, grey, and yellow copper ore. This was a lode of great promise, and would warrant any outlay that might be required to give it an efficient trial.

From Ivy Bridge Mine, Capt. James writes—"We have cut lead ore 43 fms. level south of shaft, which has greatly improved the prospects of the mine. The former workers have driven to the west of the lode, and recently with a cross-cut east 26 ft., and have intersected the lode in that direction. We are now branches dipping east towards the lode before we cut the main part, which will give volumes for the lode in the deeper levels."

Trenow Consols has considerably improved this week, more especially at Carn Perran; and Wheel Pleasant lode is looking remarkably well.

Ritton Castle Mine has been inspected by Capt. John Griffiths, who reports that the engine-shaft is sunk about 25 fathoms in depth, and advises sinking 20 fms. deeper, and then extend the levels to ascertain whether they can meet sufficient ore to pay for working. Capt. Griffiths is of opinion that, if they find it at that depth, they will certainly meet with increased encouragement to go on until they obtain it; and wishes to know as soon as possible what sum the shareholders intend the monthly cost to amount to.

During the week, shares have changed hands in the following:—

DIVIDEND MINES.—Alfred Consols, Bedford United, Bryntall, Devon Great Consols, Dolcoath, East Pool, Gonamena, Herodsfoot, North Pool, Providence, Tamar, South Wheel Frances, Stray Park, Tincroft, Trowetha, Treleigh Consols, Wetha, United Mines, West Caradon, West Damsel, West Wheel St. John, Wheel Wrey, Wheel Bassot, Wheel Damsel, Wheel Wrey, Mining Company of Ireland. MINES WHICH HAVE SOLD ORE.—Balmuccia Consols, Balmuccia Consols, Balmuccia Consols, Buller and Bassot United, Gae-Gynon, Cliphall and Wentworth, Moor, Cook's Kitchen, Cubert, Cwm Darren, Eaglebrook, East Bassot, East Wheel Russell, Graveland, and St. Aubyn, Great Wheel Vor, Leeds Town, Madron United, North Frances, North Levant, North Wheel Croft, Portkellis United, Sortridge Consols, South Garris, St. Day United, Wheel West Stray Park, Wheel Harriet, Wheel Trefusis.

MINES WHICH HAVE NOT SOLD ORE.—Butterdon, East Caradon, Paul's Down, Buller and Penstruthal, Wheel Ludcott.

In Foreign Mines, the market has been quiet, although the recent improvement has been fully maintained, and, in the small amount of business transacted, higher prices have been generally obtained. Shares changed hands yesterday Imperial Brazilian at 2 1/2 to 2 3/4; St. John del Rey, 2 3/4 to 3; Cobre Copacabana, Linares, 1 1/2; United Mexican, 4 1/2 to 4 3/4. The closing price of National Bank was 1 to 1 1/4; Clarendon of Jamaica, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4; Copacabana, 17 to 19; La Fama 1/2 dis. to par; Lusitania of Portugal, 1/2 to 1 1/4; Fontebaud, 15 to 16; Santiago, 4 1/2 to 5—an improvement of 1/2 on our last quotation.

At the Port Royal and St. Andrew's Copper Mining Company meeting on Monday (Mr. W. Gladstone in the chair), the accounts showed a balance in favour of company of 5760l. 14s. 3d. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted. Mr. Anderson was re-elected director, and a resolution was passed, recommending the board to reduce the qualification for director from 500 to 100 shares. The proceedings, which are fully detailed in another column, terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors.

At the Anglo-Californian Gold Mining Company adjourned meeting yesterday (Mr. G. E. Cottrell in the chair), it was resolved unanimously that the directors in order to pay off the liabilities in California, be authorised to raise the necessary funds by a contribution of 1s. per share from the proprietors, the shareholders assenting to be repaid their advance, together with a bonus of 25 per cent. out of the first assets received by the directors, the amount so collected to be paid to the directors, on or before the 10th of April. The meeting was further adjourned to the 10th of next month.

At the British Australian Gold Mining Company meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. W. Prinsep in the chair), the accounts showed an available balance of 1000l. Resolutions were passed, authorising the appointment of a finance committee, Melbourne, and also for adopting Mr. Michel's plan for further operations. Messrs. Prinsep, Henegge, Brightman, Braddon, and Millett were appointed the committee of management; and the proceedings, which appeared to give great satisfaction, terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At the London and Virginia Gold and Copper Mining Company meeting on Thursday (Mr. A. S. Ayton in the chair), it appeared, from the statement of the chairman, that the result of Mr. Sanders' visit to Virginia was, that he had reported the mine as likely to pay moderately as a gold mine, but not under the present expensive management. The system having been now changed all of a sudden, the directors had already paid themselves, in anticipation, a share of the dividends, stating the property (which he had up to that time described to be most profitable) as totally worthless. The directors, not knowing what to think of these conditions, had remitted 500l. to Mr. Sanders, in order that he might ward off any immediate claimants on the mines, the animus of the local directors being, from appearance, to get the property abandoned. In conclusion, the chairman recommended that a special agent should be sent out at once, to look into the real state of the property, and to take measures for carrying on the mine, if found advisable. In this small call would be necessary, to meet

The Lusitania Mining Company are in receipt of advices from their mining agent at the Palha Mines, Capt. Chegwinn, dated 7th March, from which we extract the following:—"We have begun to sink Taylor's engine-shaft below the 8 ft. level, on the course of the lode, by 12 Portuguese; the lode is 3 feet wide, composed of quartz, and some stones of copper ore. We shall try to get down 8 feet, and then put in a cistern to take up the water now coming from the levels, and by the time this is completed we hope to get the communication made from Roy's winze to Taylor's engine-shaft, when we shall be able to remove the small lift from the winze to the shaft, and get the water drawn by it. The lode in the 8 ft. level, west of Taylor's engine-shaft, is 1 foot wide, with a ton of copper ore per fm. The lode in the 8 ft. level, east of Roy's winze (driving towards the before-named level) is 1 ft. wide, worth 1 ton of copper ore per fathom. The lode in the 8 ft. level, driving west of Roy's winze, is, as was last reported, split into branches; at present we are carrying the whole width, but next week we shall drive on the north parts, being nearer the lead lode than the south parts. The lode in the slopes in the back of the adit level is 2 feet wide, and still producing good little bunches of black copper ore. We have tried to get the men to work in the eastern hill, but they cannot get on, because of so much water; we have tried our utmost, but they would rather stop out of work than work there. The lode in the 8 ft. level, west of Antonio's winze, on the Mill lode, is small and poor; besides its poverty, the air is very bad—this we have suspended for the present. The lode in the middle level, west of the same winze, is 6 in. wide, worth 1 ton of copper ore per fm. We think it best to drive some 3 or 4 fms. further, and then run down a winze to the 8 ft. level, to prove the lode, and ventilate it at the same time. We shall soon do this work, the ground being soft; the men having only 20s. per fm. At Carvalhal, we have found what is called the lead lode in a valley (that the level was driven upon, at the river-side); it is 2 feet wide, composed of quartz, gossan, and small stones of malachite, with all open to 3 fms. on it, to see what it is, and then try to trace it to the River Calma, which is at the western side of the hill; and after that, try to trace to the Fragoes River the copper lode over the eastern hill."

The Oberhof Mining Company have advices from Capt. Phillips to the 6th inst.:—"Since my last advice we have had a very favourable change. The severe weather has broken up, which has enabled us to resume our dressing operations vigorously. We have a large quantity of stuff in the mine, the great bulk of which is very good, and being brought to surface with all possible speed. We have also several hundreds of wagons of work on the dressing-floors, on which we are busily employed for market. The copper lode in the end west of the Lahn adit, looks remarkably good. At present we are driving by the side of it, but from the kindly appearance of the ground we have every reason to believe in its continuing in a new hope in the back of the level east of the Lahn adit, the lode is about 1½ foot wide, yielding 1½ ton of lead per fathom, and is found very easy of progress. There being but little done in this part of the mine, and seeing we have the same cross-courses and slides which were the making of the courses of ore in the upper levels, we may reasonably expect to find the lodes equally as good. We have also two other stopes in the back of this level, which promise fair returns. In a rise in the back of the Unne level east, which is our most extreme point of operation in this direction, we have recently been engaged in holding a piece of ground, in order to prove some old workings in the bottom of the level above. In holding this we came upon a fine course of ore, varying from 10 to 18 in. in width, and from its solidity and general character I think it will be rich for silver. It is running in new ground, and, being accompanied by the same slide as a portion of the great courses of ore in the upper levels, when we have sufficiently extended our drivages, it will no doubt add greatly to the future profits of the concern. The great stopes in the back of the middle gallery are yielding fair quality work for lead. We have 110 miners in the mine, who are in high spirits. The quantity of ground taken away by them last month amounted to about 84 fms.; and, judging from the quality of the stuff, we calculate they broke 40 tons of lead, 100 tons of blende, and several tons of rich copper ore."

The Cologne Mining Company have advices from the grant to the 1st inst. The engine on the Vahlgut continued to work well, and without ceasing to drain the whole mine. The water in the winzes, 60 fms. distant from the shaft, was disappearing in the same ratio as the sinking of the shaft proceeded. The ground continued favourable for sinking, and it was expected to sink 3 fms. in the course of this month. The men in the shaft were to be paid according to the work done, but the price was not to be fixed until the end of the month. Shaft No. 1 had been sunk 2 fathoms. The level driving from shaft No. 2 had been driven 2 fms. on the lode, which continued to be worth from 15 to 20 tons of brown ironstone per fm. Shaft No. 3 had been timbered up, and sinking would be resumed at once. The cross-cut from the deep adit to the lying lode had been suspended until the diaphragm could be put into it. The lode was found to be from 15 to 20 ft. wide, but, owing to the dangerous nature of the old workings, had not been thoroughly examined. In several places brown ironstone was discovered, from 3 to 8 feet in width, with a few stones of copper ore. The best had, of course, been broken away by the old workers. More would be known of the lode and its value here in the course of the present month. The tribute pitches were as productive as last month. The snow had begun to disappear, and surface operations would shortly be resumed.

The Wildberg Great Consolidated Mining Company have their report, to March 31:—"At the West Mine, the Blumengauz lode in sinking will produce 12 tons of silver-lead ore per fm. The lift in the above sink is put to work, and works well. No. 1 upper stope will produce 3 tons of lead ore per fathom. No. 2 middle ore will produce 6 tons of lead ore per fathom. Beck's lode, driving east from the south cross-cut, will produce full 4 tons of lead ore per fathom, but we are obliged to suspend this driving for a day or two, in consequence of having a breakage in the back of the level, but thinking by Saturday, the 10th inst., we shall be able to resume the driving again. Beck's lode, driving west from the south cross-cut, will produce 1 ton per fathom. At the East Mine, the new winze sinking below the 20 fathom level, east of Michael's shaft, will produce 3 tons of lead ore per fathom. Dean's winze, sinking under the 15 fathom level, west of Michael's shaft, will produce 2½ to 3 tons of lead ore per fathom. The waiting stopes in the back of the 20 fathom level, east of Michael's shaft, will produce 2 tons of lead ore per fathom. Carter's engine-shaftmen are engaged in timbering the shaft from the 28 to the 40 fathom level: when the timbering is completed we shall cut a good pit at the 40, and then commence stopping the back of the Erbsteigergang lode. The shallow adit from the reservoir to Carter's engine-shaft is progressing well. I am glad to state that the stamps and wash works are again set to work. The masons have again commenced building the boiler house walls, and I think they will be completed forthwith. The engineer will get the cylinder in its place next week. At the smelting works there has been but little done during the week. In consequence of there being so much frost in the ground, but I am glad to state that the weather has become mild, and greater progress will be made in future. No. 1 blast furnace is completed.—J. M. CHAMBERLAIN."

The Agua Fria Gold Mining Company have advices from Gold Hill to the 29th January, of the remittance of 124½ ozs. of retorted gold, the yield of 47 tons of veinstone from the east and west vein, and the cleaning of the mortars belonging to six of the stamps. The feeder of water was too strong for the horse-wheel, and the tributors had stopped work, except in the ground level of the adit, which accounted for the small shipment. The mill had been stopped, to put in new bed plates and the shafting for six new heads of stamps. The small engine and pumps had been erected, and a new shaft sunk 35 feet, and a level driven, in which Mr. Atwood expected to cut the east and west vein by the end of the following week, when they would have a portion of the vein driven that would take two years to work out, at the rate of 50 tons a day. Arrangements were in progress by which it was believed a considerable reduction in the rate of wages would be made; and, from the appearance of the vein, much larger shipments would have been sent had they not been interrupted by the water in the mine.

The Agua Fria Gold Mining Company have convened a meeting for the 30th inst., in order to consider the expediency of raising further capital to carry on the operations of the company, and other matters of importance. It was announced at the last annual meeting that the capital actually subscribed had been exhausted, and that the directors had raised a sum of money upon their own responsibility to carry on operations, and that the works were on the point of being abandoned, and the yield of a profit. The expectations of the directors, we believe, have been realised, but from the untoward circumstances which have, from time to time, impeded the operations of the company in California, that profit has been but small. It is, however, something, that between 16,000, and 17,000, has been actually realised by the sale of gold in England since April last, and it may be fairly assumed from the tenor of the last advices that a considerable augmentation of the produce of gold may be hereafter looked for, as the furnace for the reduction of the sulphurets was completed, and upon being tried had been found to work very well, and that there would be a large accumulation of auriferous pyrites to be operated on, and as the experimental assays have given 10 cents of gold to the pound, a large return may be expected from that source. Upon the whole, therefore, it may be considered that the directors have a fair case to lay before the proprietors in seeking for an extension of capital to a moderate amount—say, 25,000, in addition to the unissued shares of the first capital; and it is not improbable that if the next advices corroborate the views expressed by Mr. Atwood in his last letter, it will be subscribed by the shareholders.

The Gold Mining Share Market has been dull throughout the week, and yesterday not a single transaction was effected; the closing price of Agua Fria was ½ to ¾; Carson Creek, ½ to ¾; Colonial Gold, ½ to ¾; Great Nugget Vein, ½ to ¾; Nevada Monde, ½ to ¾; Waller, ½ to ¾; West Mariposa, ½ to ¾. The accounts that have come to hand from California confirm the previous received report of the excessive drought which, for a long period, has prevailed in that country; in fact, not only has mining enterprise, but every interest in the State been seriously affected. The only remedy, as far as regards water, would be the construction of canals, to bring the water from the mountainous districts to the valleys. At Tuolumne, the Columbia Fluming Company are progressing with their work, which, it was anticipated, would be completed by the end of February. At Shaw's Flat, a rich lead has been discovered, and at Mormon Gulch fair wages are being received; there is great complaint of want of water. At Siesta, a company was in course of formation for conducting the springs of Cedar Creek over the rich placer diggings of Horsetown and Middletown. In the different claims at Iowa Hill, amounting to 25, the total cost has been \$35,000; the amount realised from them has been \$350,000. Rich diggings are likewise being prosecuted at Richardson Hill and Wisconsin Hill. At Bird Flat, from some refuse ground, the miners have been making from 15 to 25 ozs. per diem. At Rattlesnake Bar, the company working there are stated to be paying a dollar an inch for water; though this is considered a high price, yet it pays where it can be obtained, and the cry from one end of the State to the other is, water.

From Australia, we learn that after retiring from the command, Sir Robert Nickle had offered 500l. for the capture of Venn, one of the insurgent leaders, dead or alive, provided he should be taken previous to the cessation of martial law. Several prisoners have been committed, some for high treason, others for sedition. There was a report that Venn, at the head of a considerable force, had erected a stockade at Waranapoh's Forest, but this required confirmation. It was stated that the Right Rev. Dr. Goold, the Roman Catholic bishop, had arrived at Ballarat with an unended list of rules for the gold diggers. The conduct of the mounted police was highly reprehended, but, nevertheless, the general opinion was that the insurgents had been justly punished. It appears that the outbreak is now terminated, and there are hopes that a general amnesty will be granted to the misguided individuals who commenced the outbreak. It is calculated that there are amongst the gold diggers at least 100,000 men, who have been convicts, although, on the other hand, there are many industrious and hard-working men. Coal had been discovered at Spring Bay, and the prospect of finding gold in Tasmania was considered highly probable. The arrivals of gold this week have been—

Admiral	57,000	£238,000
Arabic	58,000	232,000
Brilliant	55,000	140,000
Swanwick	89,000	240,000
Argo	22,313	232,000
From Phillip	70,065	232,000

In addition to this, the Argo brings over jewellery and specie of the value of 6041½ ss. 8d. The Argo has likewise brought from New York specie to the amount of 105,720l. The gold, if any, brought by the Dawson Kurrage and Emma is not stated. The advices from Melbourne, per Argo, reach to the 6th Jan. The Gold

Circular of that date says:—"The price of gold this week has remained without alteration, at 77s. per oz., with a larger demand than supply, but has to-day a decidedly downward tendency, from an anticipated alteration in the exchanges upon the departure of the Argo, which vessel will take a very valuable cargo of treasure from our shores. There is very little news of importance from the diggings. Several parcels of gold, obtained by the quartz-machines, have come to hand this week, and the owners of the machines are already making rapid fortunes. Upon the whole, the gold-fields are in a very thriving state. Castlemaine and Sandhurst again take first place in the escort returns. The Ovens fields show a steadily-increasing yield, as also the Avoca, which dwindled down to almost a nominal amount, in consequence of want of water, and the Maryborough, is gradually falling off in the same way. There is nothing further to report concerning the Anderson's Creek and Dandenong Ranges; a good quantity of gold comes to hand from these, while the population is still on the increase. Shot blasting-powder and fuse, white-lead and turps, of a good quality, are all required, and would find a remunerative demand."

The following are particulars of the receipts per escort:—

Name of gold field.	Quantity.	Increase.	Decrease.
Castlemaine	5,750 10	2,655 10	—
Beachworth	5,750 0	2,655 10	—
Beak Valley	514 10	—	—
Buckland River	702 10	—	—
Sandhurst	7,001 10	4,995 0	—
Heatheote	540 10	—	—
Ballarat	3,073 15	—	2,849 10
Avoca	1,385 10	—	475 0
Creswick's Creek	3,781 10	—	—
Mount Franklin	834 18	—	208 10
Amberst	43 10	—	—
Tarragower	12 15	12 15	—
Crybourn	58 10	—	1 10
Ballarat (Geelong)	501 10	171 0	—
Creswick's Creek (Geelong)	94 10	94 10	—
Sandhurst (Geelong)	21 0	—	—
Ditto (Geelong)	192 10	—	—
Maryborough (Adelaide)	110 0	—	—
Total	30,891 ozs. 8 dwt.	—	—

In Miscellaneous Shares, the market has been steady, and prices firm; Crystal Palace shares fully maintained the recent improvement, being dealt in yesterday at 3½, and the preference shares at ¼ pm. Shares also changed hands in North British Australasian at 1; Peel River, 3; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 5½ to 5¾; Electric Telegraph, 15½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 15 to 15½. The closing price of Australian Agricultural was 30½ to 31; Berlin Water-Works, 2½ to 2½; British American Land, 60 to 65; Mexican and South American, 64 to 65; Netherlands Land, 1 to 1½; Royal Mail Steam, 60 to 65; Scottish Australasian, 1½ to 1½; South Australian Land, 35 to 37; Submarine Telegraph scrip, ¼ to 1 ex div.; ditto, registered, ½ to ½ ex div.; Van Diemen's Land, 13 to 13½. In Joint-Stock Banks, the market yesterday was flat; the only transactions were in English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 15 to 15½, and London Chartered Bank of Australia (new), 5½. The closing quotations of other securities of this description were—Australasia, 82 to 84; Chartered Bank of Asia, 1 to 1½; London Chartered Bank of Australia, 20½ to 21½; New South Wales, 34 to 35; Oriental Bank Corporation, 39 to 41; South Australia, 35 to 40; Union of Australia, 64 to 66; ditto (new), 7 to 9.

In Iron and Coal Companies, during the week, there has been but little animation. The closing prices are as follow:—British Iron, 4½ to 5½; Blaenavon Iron and Coal, 5 to 7; Portland Iron, 1½ to 2; Rhymer Iron, 19 to 21; ditto New, 5 to 6; Duxton Iron Ore, par to ¼ prem.

At the Van Diemen's Land Company meeting, on Wednesday, the report stated that but slow progress was made in letting the lands—only about 80 acres having been disposed of at Circular Head, part of the section in the Black River. Some specimens of gold quartz had been picked up in Macquarie River. The agent found the bills now regularly paid. A steamer had been established to run between Launceston, Circular Head, and Emma Bay. In London, the balance in hand is £3087. The chairman said the income of the company now amounts to about 2500l. per annum, and that the agent has the power of at once selling or letting the land, subject to confirmation by the directors. The report was adopted.

At the General Electric Gas Company meeting at Paris on the 1st inst., (M. Goldmid in the chair), M. Delfosse, the only grant present, stated that the difficulties which had existed in bringing the company's operations to a successful issue, in consequence of the delay caused by the severity of the weather, had not yet been surmounted, but it was not his intention to ask for further time to return the subscriptions; orders had, therefore, been given to Messrs. Edgar Almé and Company to return immediately the money to those shareholders who wished to retire. M. Goldmid stated that the results of the experiments which had taken place in his presence at the Invalides fully confirmed all that had been stated of the great electric power of the machine, but it had been impossible to ascertain whether it could produce the quantity of gas announced, the gasometer being still frozen. In answer to a question by a shareholder, it was stated that a prospectus of a new company would issue in a few days, and the subscribers who now retired would have the opportunity of again taking shares upon the same terms. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the president and other members of the council.

The Fort Bowen Gold and Silver Mining Company have convened an extraordinary general meeting for Thursday next, to increase the capital of the company by the creation of 14,900 additional shares of 25s. each, and to empower the directors to borrow, and to take up any sum not exceeding 5000l. on mortgage of the real estate of the company, or on such other securities as such meeting shall deem fit.

Mr. John Calvert is now in Carnarvon, surveying the old Roman gold mines, "Ogofan," from which he shortly expects important results.

It will be seen by our advertising columns that a second edition of Mr. Murchison's work, on *British Mines as an Investment*, corrected and revised, with a large addition of valuable information, is published this day, and we hope to make some remarks upon it next week.

A private meeting of parties interested in the estate of Mr. P. Stainsby, of Salvador House, took place at the Bankruptcy Court, on Thursday, when it appeared that the liabilities amounted to 48,000l.; and the assets, consisting of sundry mining shares, were set down as 30,000l.

The Birch Tor and Vitiier Mining Company's affairs are to be settled under the Joint-Stock Companies' Winding-up Act. An official manager will be appointed by Vice-Chancellor Sir W. P. Wood on the 20th inst.

The Devon Kapunda Copper and Silver-lead Mining Company is also sought to be dissolved under the Winding-up Act; and a petition for that purpose, from Messrs. Thomas Bennett and Abraham Peter Leonard, will be heard before Vice-Chancellor Kindersley on the 23rd inst.

The Manuel Monte, recently arrived at Liverpool from Caldera, brought in 11,238 bags of silver ore.

The Tergove Mines, in Croatia, are about being worked by an English company, whose prospectus appears in another column. We shall refer to this matter in our next, which is of much interest, from being the first sale of mineral property to foreigners by the Austrian Government, who spent 30,000l. in its development, revolution, requiring the Croats for military services.

In California, a bill has been introduced into the Legislature to make steamboat owners liable for injuries to passengers caused by explosions, unless the owners can prove that the explosion did not occur by fault or negligence. The price of life is fixed at \$5000, of a leg at \$3000, of an arm at \$2000, &c.

The Madras Railway are about contracting for 8000 tons of rails.

SALE OF MINING SHARES.—Mr. T. P. Thomas commenced his periodical sales of mining shares, at Garraway's, on Wednesday, which attracted considerable interest, a very full attendance of speculators, brokers, and mining agents (some sixty or seventy) being present. The first lots submitted and sold were:—175 Boringdon Consols shares (6s. to 10s.)—averaging 7s. 6d. per share. 35 Great Wheel Bidders (17s. to 18s.)—averaging 17s. 6d. per share. 30 Great Wheel Bidders—2s. 6d. per share. 10 Great Wheel Bidders—1s. 10s. per share. 15 North Wheel Bidders (purchased by Mr. Cooke)—12. 15s. per share. 100 St. Day United (purchased by Mr. Pryor)—12. 15s. per share. 100 Vale of Towry (9s. to 9s. 6d.)—averaging 9s. 3d. per share. 2 East Wheel Bidders—29s. and 29s. 10s. per share. 1 Wheel Bidders—31s. per share. 20 Portkell United (27. 10s. to 27. 15s.)—averaging 27. 12s. 6d. per share. 5 Stray Park—8s. per share. 1 North Roskear—80s. per share. 60 North Devon (purchased by Mr. Birdsey, 17s. 6d. to 17s.)—averaging 18s. 15s. East Tamar—10s. per share. 15 Great Wheel Alfred (19. 10s. to 20. 10s.)—averaging 20s. per share. 40 Orsedd—12. 6s. to 1s. per share. 15 Horsedoot (17. 10s. to 2s. 10s.)—averaging 37. 7s. 6d.

EAST WHEEL ROSE AND CARROLL MINES.—It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that Mr. J. Tippet will hold an auction for the sale of several shares in these valuable mines, at the Royal Hotel, Truro, on Thursday next. These mines have greatly improved of late, and bid fair to pay good dividends—much sooner, indeed, than was originally anticipated.

TREWETHA MINE.—Four assays of silver-lead ore.—Mr. Bowden, 15½ to 30 for lead, and 67 ozs. silver to the ton; Mr. George, 15½ to 20 for lead, and 67½ ozs. silver to the ton; Mr. Jenkins, 16½ to 20 for lead, and 67 ozs. silver to the ton.

THE ACCIDENTS AT SORTRIDGE CONSOLS MINE.

Sir,—Your strictures on the conduct of the agent at this mine, in last week's Journal, were, I think, uncalculated for. If it were true that the accident to which you referred happened so late as Friday night, the 2d inst., he could not have given you information of it in time for your impression of the 3d, unless he did so by telegraph; and no one, in my opinion, would consider the breaking of the machinery of a hired engine (which the proprietor has to keep in repair), involving a delay of a week, in the bottom of the mine of sufficient importance to send a telegraphic report of that circumstance to your valuable Journal, so near the time of its publication as to run a great risk of its not being inserted, although it was the only means by which the distant and scattered shareholders could be informed of it; and no one who knows anything of mining would, in my opinion, sell his shares for one shilling less, in consequence of such an accident.—Redruth, March 14. THOS. NICHOLL.

HULL, MARCH 15.—Our correspondents (Messrs. T. W. Flint and Co.) state that Trefusis, Tremaynes, and South Tamar, have been required for during the past week, but holders do not seem inclined to sell. Railway shares are gaining firmness, and would have doubtless advanced more than they have done if the traffic was of a more satisfactory character, the tendency of the money market being decidedly towards greater ease. Hull and Selby shares are in request for investment, and 105½ would be readily given.

SHEFFIELD, MARCH 14.—Our correspondents (Messrs. E. Smith and Son) state that the only transactions which have taken place since our last have been in Prince of Wales Mines at 5½, and Crafsant at 1½, being the lowest prices these shares have touched. Peak United are reported to be looking much better. Trade being very flat in the town, and money scarce, has a depressing effect on mining property, and there is little disposition to do business.

THE IRON TRADE.—The "Ironmaster," in his letter to the Worcester Journal of this day, says:—"Since I last wrote to you there has not been much change in the trade. Orders for America are rather improved, but the progress in demand is not such as I anticipated a few weeks since for the season of the year. Pig-iron stocks are increasing, and the iron-works generally are not well employed. I cannot conceive the reason for maintaining the present high rate of wages of the workmen engaged in all the branches of our trade. Bars are quoted by the Mark of Iron producers at 9s. per ton, while needy men, or those who make an inferior quality, are selling at 7½. 10s. per ton."

"I maintain, that it is impossible to go on giving present wages, and ere long a change must take place: the reduction which was made three weeks since was only a half-measure, and unless the masters close their eyes to the matter entirely, they will at once give notice for a further reduction: the wages which the men were receiving a month ago, with bars selling at 9s. per ton, was equal to the rate they were paid when bars were at 12s. per ton. Is this good management? It is urged by some, that if another reduction was attempted, the men would strike. Well, suppose they did, it would do good if they did so for a month or two; for at the present time there are a large proportion of works which are, and have been for some time past, standing still for want of orders except alternate work."

"I contend that it will be far better to have the question settled at once, and declare a price for iron at the April quarter-days which the manufacturers are determined to stand by. Depend upon it, we cannot go on long with so much under-selling; the large producers will come to a price to lessen the margin between their iron and that of the inferior makers. Great efforts will be made to maintain present prices, for coal and materials are dear, and wages in an awkward state to reduce; but I am afraid, if there is not a speedy alteration in the demand, that one will be declared. Pig-iron is now out of proportion in price compared with the declared price of finished iron. You will recollect how the manufacturers complained at the high price of pigs a year ago, and said it was impossible to make wrought-iron to a profit in consequence. Now the cry is reversed, and the pig-makers complain that they are selling their produce at a price equal to only 7½. per ton for bars: such is the action and reaction consequent upon demand."

The number of pumping-engines reported in *Brown's Cornish Engine Reporter* for the month of January is 24. The average duty (being millions of pounds lifted 1 foot high by the consumption of 1 cwt. of coals) of 15 engines is 69.9 million lbs. The number of rotary steam-engines reported is 17. The average duty of these engines is 17.9 million lbs. The number of stamping-engines reported is 5. The average duty of three engines is 52.7 million lbs.

A large quantity of bitumen, imported by the Earl of Devon, Trinidad, will be shortly sold by auction by Messrs. Foster and Son, of Pall Mall.

COMMERCIAL NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The following Parliamentary Return shows the number of Stamps issued to the respective Newspapers for the year 1854:—

MINING JOURNAL	189,500
HERAPATH'S JOURNAL	97,500
RAILWAY TIMES	72,000
RAILWAY RECORD	17,375
RAILWAY GAZETTE	5,000
LONDON COMMERCIAL RECORD	59,000
JOURNAL OF COMMERCE	33,000
LONDON MERCANTILE JOURNAL	16,000

LEAD ORES.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Purchasers.
Foxdale	100	£13 6 6	J. P. Eytton.
Newtonards	100	12 8 0	ditto
Wheal Wrey Consols	50	£16 7 0	J. Bibby, Sons, & Co.
Trewetha	21	£27 6 6	T. Somers.

BLACK TIN.

Mines.	Tons.	Price per ton.	Amount.	Purchasers.
Ballewidden United	2 7 2	£24 10 0	£153 9 6	Boltho.
ditto	2 8 0	24 10 0	25 17 0	ditto
ditto	2 2 20	56 0 0	7 10 0	ditto
St. Austell Consols	1 11 3	£22 10 0	£ 97 14 10	Enthoven.
ditto	0 2 13	40 0 0	4 18 2	ditto
Boscan	9 3 1	£25 0 0	£295 14 0	Boltho.
ditto	8 1 2	64 12 6	522 0 0	ditto
Drake Walls	8 0 0	£28 2 6	£245 0 0	Enthoven.
ditto	7 0 0	63 10 0	444 10 0	Bischoe Co.
West Wh. Towan	6 10 0	63 10 0	425 15 0	Enthoven.
ditto	1 10 0	55 17 6	86 16 3	Bischoe Co.

COPPER ORES.

Sampled February 28, and sold at Tabb's Hotel, Redruth, March 15.					
Mines.	Tons.	Price.	Mines.	Tons.	Price.
Wheal Buller	141	£6 14 6	Boiling Well	68	£13 13 6
ditto	126	5 15 6	ditto	57	4 5 6
ditto	111	5 8 6	ditto	46	5 0 6
ditto	98	4 7 0	ditto	29	2 9 0
ditto	91	7 0 0	South Crenver	84	2 17 0
ditto	90	3 15 6	ditto	72	2 4 0
ditto	70	5 13 0	ditto	30	1 12 6
ditto	60	5 17 6	ditto	10	9 14 6
ditto	53	5 17 6	Halannning, &c.	58	5 8 6
ditto	37	6 3 6	ditto	48	3 18 6
ditto	34	2 19 6	ditto	44	6 12 0
West Wheel Basset	114	4 8 0	ditto	35	5 2 6
ditto	105	5 4 0	Rosewarne United	82	2 9 0
ditto	95	10 13 0	ditto	69	10 17 0
ditto	89	7 13 0	Huthnance	32	15 11 0
ditto	71	6 3 0	West Alfred Consols	47	3 3 6
ditto	70	7 7 0	ditto	45	1 7 6
ditto	30	15 4 0	ditto	18	1 27 0
Carn Bre	77	11 8 6	ditto	18	1 5 0
ditto	64	3 15 6	ditto	16	10 16 6
ditto	60	3 15 6	Great Wheel Alfred	80	4 17 0
ditto	52	3 3 6	ditto	26	11 2 0
ditto	51	5 3 0	ditto	26	11 2 0
ditto	50	4 13 6	Clijah & Wentworth	50	6 6 0
ditto	49	3 16 6	ditto	44	5 5 6
ditto	45	1 17 0	ditto	43	7 11 0
North Wheel Basset	107	3 4 0	Levant	44	4 0 13 6
ditto	88	5 7 0	ditto	36	5 8 6
ditto	76	2 6 6	ditto	33	5 6 6
ditto	62	2 6 6	Botallack	43	15 6 6
ditto	57	5 7 6	ditto	41	13 6 6
Par Consols	74	5 17 6	West Fowey Consols	40	11 18 0
ditto	70	12 1 0	Treloweth	62	2 19 6
ditto	61	13 13 6	ditto	12	12 10 6
ditto	57	12 4 6	North Downs	47	5 8 6
ditto	53	5 12 0	ditto	20	8 1 6
ditto	50	5 12 0	Cook's Breichen	65	1 14 6
Alfred Consols	114	10 15 6	Wheal Trewenith	25	6 6 0
ditto	61	13 18 6	Treleigh Consols	11	2 4 0
ditto	40	2 13 6	ditto	10	4 3 0
ditto	11	4 6 0	North Wheel Unity	14	0 15 0
ditto	5	27 2 6	ditto	6	9 8 6

Notices to Correspondents.

* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

THE LONDON AND CALIFORNIA GOLD QUARTZ CRUSHING COMPANY.—SIR: I thought shares three years since, and during that time nothing has been done by the directors to apprise the proprietors of their proceedings, except an occasional announcement of the shipment of machinery to California. I have written to the secretary at the office of the company, No. 102, Leadenhall-street, but my letters have either been returned to me through the Dead Letter Office, or no notice taken of them, and I see by the *Directory* of 1855, the company's name disappears altogether. In common with several friends of mine, shareholders, I should feel greatly obliged if you, or any of your readers, could inform me of the real position of this company. —A SHAREHOLDER: March 12.

SHARE-DEALING SECRETARIES.—SIR: I think the opportunity should not be passed without recording the opinion expressed by one of these gentlemen, at Great Hewas meeting, last week, "that the public had nothing whatever to do with the management of the affairs of the company, and that publicity was calculated to injure the interests" &c. After such opinion being volunteered, it more especially behoves shareholders in companies managed by dealers in shares to bestir themselves in examining into their own affairs, and putting their respective "houses in order." —L: Old Broad-street, March 15.

T. B. (Birmingham).—Several of the inventions for the consumption of smoke have proved abortive, the merits of various of them merely consisting in the laudations of the inventors. We know nothing of Mr. Jeardard's patent apparatus, or are aware that it is used in any public or private establishments; its merits, if there be any, to our knowledge, have not yet been tested.

SIR.—In answer to the enquiry of your correspondent, I may state that Wheel Speedwell and Wheel Chiverton were both stopped on the 30th March, 1854, subject to the approval of a subsequent meeting, when the materials were ordered to be disposed of; they have since been sold, as well as those of Wheel Neptune, and all the proceeds realised; but I have been unable to obtain a satisfactory reply to any communication I have addressed respecting a settlement of their affairs. —Mr. Hosking, Cliff Cottage, Marazion, was the purser; and Captain Thomas Richards, Foundry House, Hayle, the manager of Speedwell, Chiverton, and Neptune. —C.: March 15.

"Honestas" (Brighton).—The committee of investigation, at one of the meetings, repudiated the idea of receiving any remuneration for their services. The directors received quite enough when the company was brought out, and certainly have no right to demand anything for themselves, seeing that their whole career has been characterised by mismanagement.

W. T. CARADON MINE.—SIR: I was not a little surprised to see, by your Journal of the 24th February, that Capt. Dunstan, our manager, had a vote of thanks passed to him at the late meeting, for his careful attention to the interests of the shareholders. I very well recollect the when he was appointed the manager; he then promised us 10% dividends at every bi-monthly meeting, which induced me to purchase shares at double their present price; but I am sorry to say, Mr. Editor, that instead of a dividend of 10% per share, it is only 4%, although the reports issued from the meetings have all been of the most flattering description. —A SHAREHOLDER THROUGH BELTING ON CAPT. DUNSTAN'S PROMISE: Plymouth, March 9.

COMPETENT AGENTS—ENGLISH AND WELSH.—SIR: I beg to tell "Bona Fide" that, in my letter of last week, I made no allusion to Cwmtylle stamps, or the mine, not having seen either. The cost of the stamps was enough to be a superior one, and I hope it will perform the duty it is expected to do. I have never seen any stamps answer better than the Cornish one; the self-feeder, by the Germans, may be added; it is a very good thing where the stamps are looked after by boys, or sleepy men by night. —W. H.: Lydford, March 14.

PRACTICAL MINING.—SIR: "J. S. D." was misinformed. They do not sink with plunger-lifts, either in Derbyshire or Cornwall; they sink with a drawing-lift 20 or 30 fms. below the adit level, after which they fix a 20 or 30 fathom plunger-lift, and continue sinking on with the lift with which they began, and what I consider a very economical and judicious plan. —W. H.: Lydford, March 14.

GREAT SIBTHROPE CONSOLS.—SIR: I would suggest to the shareholders, that at the next meeting they ask for the production of the Deed; after that they can judge for themselves how far I am right as to the cutting up of the sett. —R. TREMAYNE: Kennington-road, March 11.

CLARENDON MINING COMPANY OF JAMAICA.—SIR: I have been informed that the directors have received a box of ore, which has been assayed, and found to be rich for copper. Can you inform me why the result has not been published in the *Mining Journal*, and also the reason the directors abstain from giving publicity to the reports received from the mines by them? —A SHAREHOLDER: March 14.

PRACTICAL MINING.—SIR: In your last Journal, "J. S. D." wishes to be informed which are the most economical and legitimate lifts for sinking shafts. In Cornwall the drawing lift is thought to be, but I suppose in Derbyshire the plunger. In Cornwall the prevailing opinion is in favour of the drawing lift; it is thought to be more economical, which I believe it to be, for several reasons:—It is less expensive than the plunger; it is also much lighter for hoisting about; easier connected to the main rod; and it takes up only one-half the room in the shaft. —H. V. HOSKINGS, Engineer: Downy-square, Bristol, March 13.

"W. R." (Cornhill).—The "opinion" that "the public had nothing to do with the management of mining companies" has already been referred to. The other matters would not afford proper subject for comment.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN BANKING AND GOLD IMPORTING COMPANY.—SIR: In your last Journal it is stated that several shareholders require information as to the proceedings of the directors, the progress making in their arrangements, and when they may expect a public meeting. Surely these gentlemen must have been for a long period in a state of somnambulism, or else they would, on referring to the *Mining Journal*, have discovered that the Royal Australian Banking and Gold Importing Company no longer exists; that at a full meeting of shareholders, held at Hadley's Hotel, in 1852, it was finally dissolved, and the capital transferred to the Melbourne, Sydney, and Adelaide Bank. Further, in an analysis of the gold mining companies, published in your columns on the 15th of January, it was stated that this company was merged into a bank. From the secretary, I learn that all the registered shareholders have taken up their shares in the new company, so that I am at a loss to conceive where the shareholders have been residing, who now make these enquiries about a company which has been dissolved nearly three years, and that with the concurrence of the proprietors. The secretary of the company would afford them information at any time, and I have no doubt that some of these gentlemen will apply at the office the next time they awake from their slumbers. —A SHAREHOLDER: London, March 14.

"F. W." (Chester-square) cannot adopt the course he proposes: he should apply to a solicitor.

SOUTH CARADON.—SIR: I find from the ticketing in your Journal of the 24th of last month, that the South Caradon were to sell 270 tons of copper ore on the 1st March; however, since then I see no mention among the sales of such a quantity being sold by that mine. Perhaps you can give me some information on this point, as the ore being sampled on the regular day, and as the eastern ores are only sampled once every fourth week, our correspondent should refer to the list of ores sampled this week, in the Journal of to-day; and in case it does not appear there, address the purser, at Liskeard, Cornwall.]

J. HARRIS (Gravesend).—A project has been set on foot for establishing copper smelting-works at Chattanooga, in Tennessee (U.S.). This has been done with the intention of obviating the shipping of ores to Baltimore. Within the last few years, the mining districts of Tennessee and North-Western Georgia have considerably increased both in importance and wealth.

MELBOURNE GOLD AND GENERAL MINING COMPANY.—SIR: At the commencement of the gold mining mania I was induced to take shares in this undertaking, imagining that, as the Hon. the Earl of Devon had condescended to accept the appointment of chairman to the company, that the objects of the undertaking would be honourably carried out. I regret, however, as yet no efforts have been made by the directors to benefit the shareholders. As myself, and other interested, have of late addressed the noble earl requiring information, and received no reply, it is considered advisable to have this fact notified to his lordship and the directors, through the medium of your Journal, in order to induce some of the directors to favour the public with information, as to what course they intend to pursue to bring the affairs of the company to a satisfactory conclusion. Any of the shareholders possessing one of the prospectuses first issued by the company, will confer a favour, by forwarding the same to my address, that a legal opinion may be taken upon its merits. —Geo. GREENHAM: 4, Bail Gate, Lincoln, March 12.

MELBOURNE DOCK AND RAILWAY.—SIR: I believe the shareholders in this company were, on a former occasion, asked by you for drawing the attention of the directors to the propriety of their winding-up the concern. A meeting was in consequence called, and 17. per share returned, with the promise of a balance, the directors hoped, of 15s. further per share being shortly restored to the shareholders. Some eight or nine months have since elapsed, yet no movement on the part of the directors. —A SHAREHOLDER: March 9.

"Inquirer" (Paris).—Whenever a mine is productive enough to pay costs it is seldom abandoned on account of water; with the mechanical knowledge and power which is brought to bear here, if a mine is allowed to lapse, it would be a doubtful speculation for other adventurers to take up. The pump in question we have not heard of.

GREAT CRINNE.—SIR: I find, in last week's Journal, a report from a Capt. Francis Barrett on the Great Crinnis Mines, and some remarks made by him on another mine in the neighbourhood. Will you do me the favour to state in your next Journal, that this Capt. Barrett is a nephew to the Capt. Barrett late of the Charlestown United Mines, and without first depositing the amount of them in money. An irregularity occurred some time ago, by the temporary non-payment of a draft, for which I had exchanged bank-notes in London; but that does not warrant the calumnious insinuation so unjustifiably made by your correspondent in Dublin, on the authority, no doubt, of the discarded and disappointed agent, who has furnished all the statements regarding this mine previously contradicted in your Journal, which should have induced caution in the promulgation of information from that source, or at least an enquiry before circulating through your Journal any matter having a tendency to damage the mine with the public. —J. C. FORSTER: 26, Throgmorton-street, March 15.—(The first matter of complaint arose from a typographical error, as elsewhere explained, "the Cash" being printed for "Mr. Cash.")

R. T. FRANCIS (Stroud).—The boiler invented by Mr. Andrews is supposed to obviate many of the accidents at present occurring on railways; as it has not, however, been practically tried on a large scale, it is impossible to state in what manner it is superior to those now in general use.

DEWBORE MINE.—SIR: Your correspondent in Dublin has inserted two paragraphs in his letter in last week's Journal, purporting to relate occurrences at this mine. By the first, it appears as though the money at the mine was taken away by Mr. Walker to London. If such is the meaning intended to be conveyed to the public, I beg leave most distinctly to deny it. By the second paragraph, it would appear as though parties sent orders or drafts to Skibbereen for payment, without having the funds there to meet them. I also deny this assertion as applicable to this mining company. No orders are ever sent for payment in Skibbereen, nor drafts for payment in London, without first depositing the amount of them in money. An irregularity occurred some time ago, by the temporary non-payment of a draft, for which I had exchanged bank-notes in London; but that does not warrant the calumnious insinuation so unjustifiably made by your correspondent in Dublin, on the authority, no doubt, of the discarded and disappointed agent, who has furnished all the statements regarding this mine previously contradicted in your Journal, which should have induced caution in the promulgation of information from that source, or at least an enquiry before circulating through your Journal any matter having a tendency to damage the mine with the public. —J. C. FORSTER: 26, Throgmorton-street, March 15.—(The first matter of complaint arose from a typographical error, as elsewhere explained, "the Cash" being printed for "Mr. Cash.")

JAMES MINING NEWS.—In that part of your Dublin correspondent's letter of last week where reference is made to the Dharode Mine, by a typographical error, a stupid mistake occurs—for "the Cash," it should read Mr. Cash has accompanied Mr. Walker by rail to London.

PORT ROYAL AND ST. ANDREW'S COPPER MINING COMPANY OF JAMAICA.—SIR: At the meeting of this company, held on the 12th inst., a shareholder made the observation that, even if valuable lodes did exist, they could not be worked advantageously, for want of labour. Judging from more recent experience (the gentleman alluded to not having been, I believe, in the island for many years), and the statements contained in the cost-sheets of the various companies, I have no hesitation in stating that labour in Jamaica, for mining purposes, is both abundant and cheap. I do not fear the result, if but a small portion of the same patience, energy, and perseverance bestowed upon English mines is accorded to Jamaica. The Crown has agreed to waive any rights it may possess for a period of six years from the 1st of January last; and a high authority, who has published, from actual survey, a geological map of the island, has expressed his opinion that Jamaica will rival Cuba in the export of mineral wealth. —ANOTHER SHAREHOLDER: London, March 15.

GREAT HEWAS UNITED MINER.—A correspondent states that it is ridiculous to say there is 10,000l. worth of tin in sight, but that it costs 25s. to obtain 20s. worth of tin. He recommends advertising for all outstanding claims, in order that the true amount of liabilities may be obtained, and advises that a faithful report, properly authenticated, be published weekly in the *Mining Journal*.

"A Shareholder" (Selby).—A meeting is called of the shareholders of the Agus Fria Company on the 30th inst. The reports of the engineers can always be inspected at the offices of the association, and it is not to be supposed that any of those concerned would garble despatches from the works. When the mills are in full operation, they are on so large a scale that they are enabled to crush for other parties, at a handsome rate of profit to the company.

CWMTYLLE ROCK AND GREEN LAKE COPPER MINING COMPANY.—We have received a reply from "A Shareholder" to the attack against the management of this company, by "Hibernicus," but have not room for its insertion this week.

GREAT WIRRAL MARTHA.—SIR: I beg to express my entire concurrence in the views taken by your correspondent, "A Looker-On," with respect to this company, and I hope it will call forth some information for the good of the public. It would also appear more like business if the captain at the mines, or whoever sends you the reports from time to time, would attach his signature to them, as it would then prove the reports came from the proper quarter. —A SHAREHOLDER: March 12.

SORTSIDROE CONSOLS.—SIR: I, for one, thank you for your remarks on Sortsidro Consols. There is, however, a circumstance, affecting that mine very largely, which is not yet known to the public—viz., the fact that the best part of their lode, which lies between the shaft and North Robert, dips out of their sett at the 40 several fathoms, at the 50 several more, and so on increasingly downwards. I wish to ask the managing director these questions—Does not the report by Capt. Richards, ordered to be obtained at the last meeting, and circulated amongst the shareholders, show this fact? and is that the reason why that report has not been circulated? And, further, do not the holders of the adjoining sett refuse to give up the land in question, unless paid a large sum in cash? and has it not been questioned whether the present holders of that land, being also shareholders in Sortsidro, can legally keep the said land from their co-partners? and whether a suit in equity has not been talked of, to compel them to give up the said land to the Sortsidro shareholders, even as the first holders in Mary Ann Mine were obliged to give it up to the Trelawny shareholders, under like circumstances? —ABINADAB CHOITCH: March 15.

"B. B." (Dorset).—The accounts should be received with suspicion; the gold delusion has deceived many, and to ensure success a thorough investigation should take place.

The article on Improvements in Gunners is unavoidably postponed until our next.

MINING CALLS.—Several complaints having lately been made, that recent calls were not added to the amount paid on shares in the respective mines, we can only say that we are anxious to present a correct return; and when an omission occurs, it arises from our not possessing the information. The blame rests entirely with the pursers or secretaries, as we are always ready to attend to any communications we may receive.

We have particularly to request that subscribers and others, in paying accounts, will send cheques or post-office orders, as postage-stamps cannot be received.

THE MINING JOURNAL

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, MARCH 17, 1855.

An important appeal for the first division of the Court of Session in Scotland, in the case of the NATIONAL EXCHANGE COMPANY OF GLASGOW (appellants) v. PETER DREW, of Glasgow, merchant, and Another (respondents), recently occupied the House of Lords four successive days, and after taking time to consider their judgment, it was delivered on the 9th March. The company had been established in 1845, for the purpose of making advances on railway stocks, discounting bills, transacting all banking business, and they afterwards added that of shareholders—the deed of constitution providing that they might sue, or be sued, in the name of their manager, or other public officer. It consisted of 50,000 shares, of which 8000 were reserved to the company, each provisional committee taking 300 shares, paying only on 50, the company itself advancing money at 4 per cent. to pay the instalments on the remainder, and Mr. BARLOW was appointed manager. In January, 1846, the company was amalgamated with the Glasgow, Greenock, and Port Glasgow Investment Company, retaining their original title; but the capital was raised to 1,000,000l., and on this 200,000l. was said to have been paid up within the first year. Mr. DREW and Mr. DICK, the other respondent, took 1130 shares, and at the first annual meeting in September, 1847, were presented with a flourishing report, and a dividend of 8l. 6s. 8d. per cent., followed by a second similar report at the next annual meeting in September, 1848, and a dividend of 8l. per cent. Messrs. DREW and DICK, dazzled by this prosperity, resolved to buy 240 shares more; and in the October of that year the company, as brokers, purchased such shares on their account, and the purchase money advanced, with brokerage, amounted to about 618l. Meanwhile, reports had been circulated respecting the authenticity of the annual reports, and also respecting the prudence of some money transactions by Mr. BARLOW, in consequence of which a deputation of shareholders demanded an investigation. It was then discovered that the paid-up capital of 200,000l. was all exhausted, and that the company was insolvent; the manager resigned, or was dismissed, and Messrs. DREW and DICK refused to adopt or recognise the above transaction, whereupon the company sued them for the 618l. In their pleading, the company alleged that they had purchased the shares, and advanced the money in the usual way as brokers; that the company's deed provided that before a shareholder should sell his shares he must give the company the refusal of them at the price offered by the proposed purchaser; that the company, having refused the offer, purchased for the respondents, who were thus indebted for the sum advanced. Messrs. DREW and DICK relied on a defence of fraud, alleging that they had been deceived by the assurances of the prosperity of the company; that the annual reports of the directors and managers were a tissue of falsehoods; and that they were not bound to pay the sum advanced, as they had been induced to enter into the contract by fraud, concealment, and misrepresentation on the part of the manager, who, in this respect, bound the company; and that, at all events, the charges of interest at 8l. per cent. were exorbitant.

On the argument in the Court below, the allegations of fraud were considered as rather too vague, but ultimately two issues were directed.—1. Whether the respondents were induced by the fraud and misrepresentation of the appellants, or the directors, or manager, to purchase the shares?—2. Whether the appellants, in violation of their duty, as brokers, misrepresented the company's affairs, and thereby induced the respondents to purchase? There was a division in the Scottish Court as to granting of these issues, and from the decision of the majority the appeal was brought. For the appellants, it was argued that the allegations of fraud were too indefinite to lead to any issue; that there was nothing which could be tried; that it was not sufficient to say there was fraud; they were bound to state specifically what the fraudulent acts were. This was a simple action to recover money lent and paid, and it was no answer to it that the directors, without authority from the company, had made false statements; there might be a remedy against the directors who had deceived the respondents, but the company were not liable. The directors could not even be treated as the agents of the company, for there was no allegation that they knew what they stated to be false at the time, which was essential to that defence. Even on the respondents' own showing, they were joint proprietors at the time themselves, and were equally bound to know what authority the directors had for the statements they made, for directors could not have from a company authority to rig the market, the act being in itself a fraud. The appellants acted in this case as brokers only, and as such were not bound to inform the purchasers of the worthlessness of the shares. For the respondents, it was argued that the rules of pleading ran in opposite extremes in England and Scotland; the great strictness required in the former country was generally objected to, and the Scotch system was now charged with too much laxity. The substance of the case was this—that the respondents had been induced, by the fraudulent representations of the directors and managers of the company, to purchase the shares; that the purchase and advance of the money was one and the same transaction, and, being tainted with fraud, that the whole was null. If the doctrine that directors had not authority to bind a company by fraudulent representations were sustained, a party imposed on by a company could never obtain redress, and as a company could only act by and through its directors, the latter were presumed to have a ge-

neral authority to bind the company in the leading speculation which it was formed to carry out.

After taking time to consider, the LORD CHANCELLOR, LORD BROUGHAM, and Lord ST. LEONARDS delivered separate judgments; they all concurred in disapproving of the great laxity of language which characterised pleadings in the Courts in Scotland. The appellants had contended, in the first place, that the fraud, if there was any, did not lead to the loan, but merely induced the respondents to buy at an exorbitant price shares which were comparatively worthless, and did not affect the money loan; secondly, that the fraud, as alleged, was not the fraud of the company, but of the directors and manager; and, thirdly, that the fraud was not alleged with sufficient particularity. On the whole, however, they concurred in thinking that, when the allegations were all taken together, and the legitimate construction put upon them, sufficient was stated by the respondents to enable them to resist the demand. The case must be considered as a clear case of fraud, when all the facts were viewed as they ought to be, as one and the same transaction. Appeal dismissed, with costs.

The large amount of litigation with which the mining public is now contending, for the most part involving questions as to the applicability of the doctrine of forfeiture of shares in cost-book mines, induces us to make a few observations upon the law as it now stands, according to the best and most recent authorities. As a preliminary observation, it may be observed that, in all periods of our legal history, the doctrine of forfeiture, to whatever subject applied, whether to landed estates, mercantile contracts, or to mines, has always been acknowledged by our soundest jurists to be one *strictissimi juris*; thereby meaning that all the conditions necessary to a legal and efficacious forfeiture must be accurately and perfectly executed, even to the most minute details; which quality of forfeiture has been held by the Lords Justices, in the late case of HART v. CLARKE, to be applicable to a forfeiture of shares in a cost-book mine.

This strict nature of "forfeiture" being indisputable, we pass on to a consideration of the essentials to a forfeiture of shares in a cost-book mine. There are, in the main, three—1. There must be in the cost-book an expressed power to forfeit the shares, which power must be so framed as to be feasible, and capable of execution. A very rare occurrence.—2. There must be an existence of all the legal facts, being the conditions precedent to the forfeiture, and without which it cannot arise. Thus, assume the clause for forfeiture to be—"That, on non-payment of calls, the directors of the mine shall, at a special general meeting of the shareholders, forfeit the said shares for the benefit of the adventure." Now, amongst many legal facts necessary to support a forfeiture in such a case would be—a duly made call,—the amount, time, and the persons called upon to pay it—the non-payment thereof, not only actually, but also that the adventurer was, as against the mine, both in law and equity, bound to pay the amount of the calls. For instance, if the adventurer be a *material man*, who had duly supplied materials to the mine, he would be entitled to set off the amount of such materials against his calls, and he would not be subject to have his shares forfeited for non-payment of calls until his accounts for materials should have been duly satisfied. The directors of the mine must be duly appointed, and qualified according to the cost-book; and, lastly, the shares must be forfeited at a special general meeting, duly convened according to the cost-book.

Now, looking at the difficulty of steering correctly through so intricate a course, it cannot be matter of wonder that so few forfeitures stand the test of the courts of law or equity. But we have not yet enumerated all the troubles that beset the question of forfeiture; for the most formidable are those which arise, thirdly, in the manner of the forfeiture, or, in other words, the *modus operandi*, from the calling of the special meeting to forfeit, to the making and execution of all the propositions, resolutions, and acts necessary to be done before the forfeiture can be safely inserted in the cost-book. For forfeiture being, as we have seen, *strictissimi juris*, the most minute detail necessary to the due performance of the forfeiture must be accurately executed. It is, for the most part, in this, the third stage of the proceedings, that forfeitures fail; either they are not duly proposed, or persons not being adventurers are allowed to vote, or the resolutions are improperly expressed, or the entry in the cost-book is informal from one or more causes, &c. In a word, a strictly legal forfeiture must have been conducted with consummate skill, and when accomplished is matter for great astonishment. It is true that a forfeiture was established in STEWART v. THE CALIFORNIA GOLD MINING COMPANY (reported in TAPPIN'S *Cost-book Essay*, p. 178), but that is an exception, and almost the sole exception, to the numberless instances in which attempts to forfeit have been declared illegal.

For a considerable period, gold mining companies have been at a discount; this has arisen from a variety of causes, with which the public are so well acquainted that they need no recapitulation here. The greatest evil has been, however, the secrecy in which all their transactions were enveloped, the mystery they pursued in all their dealings, and the absence of all information. Many of the directors of these associations have levanted, while others have figured in the *Gazette*, and some disappeared no man knows whither. Amongst the companies which deserve honourable mention is the COLONIAL GOLD; they have held their meetings regularly, according to the Deed of Settlement, their accounts have been regularly audited, and the managers, Messrs. JOHN TAYLOR and SONS, have accorded information to any shareholder who requested it. The report and accounts, which were submitted to the meeting on the 1st inst., have been issued to the proprietors. These, although they report no successful result, give a lucid detail of the present position, as well as the future prospects, of the company, and the statements put forward fully explain the several causes which have prevented a favourable solution. The example given by the Colonial Gold Company is worthy of imitation, and if other associations would follow in their wake, there would be less grounds for the just complaints we are daily obliged to hear.

Our readers must remember the conflict of scientific evidence that arose in the Torbane Hill mineral case, whether that substance was a coal or not. The litigation between the parties was, however, decided on grounds wholly irrespective of that question, the jury having found, and the Court having affirmed the finding, that the parties had, with full knowledge of the substance respecting which they treated, dealt with, and demised the article under the name of coal, and that, therefore, its genuine character was wholly immaterial to the contract. The prevailing opinion in this country seems to be that this singular substance is not a coal, but a bituminous shale, and this conclusion is sustained by the views entertained on the subject in Germany, where the question has arisen in rather a remarkable way. In the city of Frankfurt on the Maine, there are, by contract with the town authorities, two companies for making gas to supply that city; one, the English Continental Gas Company, is alone entitled and restricted to make gas from coal, while the other, the Frankfurt Oil Gas Company, has the privilege of making gas from resinous or pitchy substances, as well as from oil; in short, from all substances except coal. In 1853, the Torbane mineral was introduced into Frankfurt, and the question then arose which company was entitled to use it, the company limited to the production of gas from coal, or the company empowered to make gas from other substances, including bituminous shales or schists.

Simultaneously with the raising of this question, another, involving the same point, arose, but between different parties—viz., whether the Torbane Hill mineral was liable to pay the Customs duty which is levied on all coals entering Frankfurt, and in general all the cities of the Zollverein? The Customs House authorities did not know what to make of this singular substance, and they referred the question to the head Board of Customs at Berlin, which has the power of deciding what duties are payable within the bounds of the Zollverein. The most eminent scientific men in Germany were consulted, and they all concurred that the substance is not coal, but a bituminous schist of a peculiar character, the celebrated Lüneburg schist, in his opinion, that "the mineral is a bituminous shale, and cannot be confounded with coal." The authorities accordingly acted upon this decision, and, sacrificing the impost duty chargeable on coal, the Torbane Hill mineral is now admitted duty free.

The conclusion thus arrived at also determined the question between the gas companies—viz., that the Frankfurt Oil Gas Company had alone the right to manufacture gas from Torbane Hill bituminous schist. That company, however, found the oil gas from the Torbane Hill mineral too rich, and were therefore induced, for economical reasons, to mix the gas obtained from the mineral in question with some gas obtained from a proportion of cheap coal. In consequence, however, of this adulteration, or departure from their contract not to sell gas containing any mixture of gas obtained from coal, that company was, on the 18th Dec. last, fined in a considerable sum. Thus, so soon as the Frankfurt Oil Gas Company ventured to

combine the genuine Torbane Hill mineral with a small proportion of cheap coal, the adulteration was at once detected, and punished by the town authorities.

A very interesting publication has just appeared, from the pen of Mr. GEORGE HENRY WATKIN, *The Golden Colony, or Victoria in 1854*, with remarks on the geology of the Australian gold fields, illustrated from original sketches by the author, which at this peculiar moment merits particular attention. Mr. WATKIN had been previously known as the author of *Arts, Antiquities, and Chronology of Ancient Egypt*, but his recent residence at the mines, and journeys through various parts of Australia, had given him unusual facilities for acquiring a general acquaintance with its landscape and its geology. The rise and rapid growth of the group of Australian colonies forms one of the most memorable events of our century, and, perhaps, the most remarkable chapter in the annals of colonisation. Victoria is, geographically, the centre of the Australian group, and, although the most recently established colony, has outstripped all the others in wealth, commerce, and material prosperity; and, while it is the only one which has not as yet received any fostering care from the mother country, its position, its natural resources, and its past history, all seem to point it out as the central seat of civilisation in the South Pacific regions. Since Victoria is now an independent province, it may be considered the most southern of the Australian colonies, and contains Victoria Proper and Gipps's Land, the latter being a maritime province, shut in by a wall of mountains on the north and west, and thus cut off from the rest of the colony. Of Gipps's Land little is known except to its few scattered inhabitants, the representative of this district in the Legislative Council having lately stated, in moving for certain statistical returns, that the Government were wholly unacquainted with its capabilities and resources. One of the most remarkable features of Victoria is Port Phillip Bay, the great inland basin, or harbour, which once gave its name to the whole territory. This magnificent sheet of water is circular, about 50 miles in diameter, receding into bays and coves, sheltered by projecting headlands, and communicating with the open sea by a channel about a mile wide, here all the navies of the world may safely ride at anchor.

The reader is presented with a rapid survey of the country, and the future traveller will find in the work before us an accurate hand-book to guide his steps and direct his progress. A large proportion of the mountain ranges consists of slaty rocks, very similar to those of North Wales and Cumberland, but differing from these in being intersected by countless veins of quartz, varying from the thickness of a shilling to several feet in width, while the hills are strewn over with fragments of such veins, which sometimes form a white glistening gravel of quartz. It is on the lower slopes of these ranges, and along the green flats of the valleys, that the gold digger plies his laborious trade, for here lie buried the golden treasures which have converted, sometimes in a single week, what was a silent waste into a scene of laborious industry. To the north, all these mountain ranges gradually sink into the immeasurable plains of the interior, through which winds the Murray, the Mississippi of Australia, with its thousand tributary streams, supposed to be navigable as far as Albany, or 1900 miles from its mouth. On the northern shore of Port Phillip Bay, and girt with mountains to the north and west, stretch the Melbourne plains, the seat of long-extinct volcanic fires, extending about 30 miles from east to west, and 25 from the mountains to the sea. The navigation of the entrance of the Murray is beset with difficulties, but these are obviated by a railway seven miles in length, recently completed, and steamers now upon the river seem to promise that the Murray will become the great highway of inland communication to the three colonies, especially to the Victoria gold diggings; it is further anticipated, that ere long thriving agricultural settlements will spring up along its alluvial margin. At present, these districts are stocked but inadequately with sheep, and the temperature of the valley of the Murray is far higher than that of the southern districts along the sea board, and even exceeds that of the Indian peninsula. The grass is accordingly burnt during the summer heats; but when the pasturage is destroyed, the sheep feed and fatten on a shrub called the "salt bush," which, by a beneficent arrangement, is abundant in those torrid tracts, although unknown, or very rare, to the south; and our author seems to think it more than probable that Great Britain will hereafter be supplied from those now solitary wastes with a large proportion of the tropical products for which she is now dependent on foreign lands.

The gold country is described as consisting of hills, rocky and sterile, abounding with steep slopes, the valleys wide as they descend into the low lands, but contracting into rocky gulleys as they wind up into the heart of the mountain. Swelling, rounded hills sometimes flank one side of the valley in advance of the rocky acclivities of the higher ranges behind, and not unfrequently these lower hills are covered or crested with quartz gravel of glistening white, like chalk. If the valley should prove highly auriferous, the rich deposits will generally be found first along the rocky bed of a creek, especially when crossed by a bar; and, secondly, on the sides and summits of the swelling hills flanking the valleys; thirdly, in the gulleys which branch off from the main valley; fourthly, on the alluvial flats not diffused over their entire area, but following a definite line, or, rather, forming a band which winds through the flat. Although the spots yielding gold in abundance are, of course, comparatively few, the general character of the auriferous country is so distinctly marked, that the eye of the most unobservant soon becomes able to recognise it. The rocks are more or less slaty, they are almost or quite vertical; and their direction, or strike, is always nearly due north and south—indeed, so uniformly is this the case, that a person lost in a forest may make his way out by simply noting the direction of the beds of rocks.

The richest of the known gold fields were those first discovered—viz., the valleys of Forest Creek and Fryer's Creek near Mount Alexander, with the districts of Bendigo and Ballarat, and these still form the great centres of the mining population. The most important since discovered are—the Ovens River, about 150 miles from Melbourne, on the road to Sydney; the Mac Ivor diggings, about 42 miles north-east from Forest Creek, and 38 from Bendigo; Creswick Creek, north of Ballarat; Mount Korong, and the Avoca River, west of Bendigo, and verging on the plains of the Murray—the last discovered, and one of the most important. These various gold fields range over an area of 24,000 square miles, being 240 in length from east to west, and 100 miles in breadth, and may, as a whole, be considered the richest gold-bearing region in the world, having produced the largest average yield to a given number of miners, and the largest nuggets, or lumps of gold; while the gold produced is unequalled in purity, sometimes yielding 98 or 99 per cent. of pure metal. Bendigo seems the metropolis of the gold mines; there not only the entire bottom, or floor, of the main valley has been turned up, but every lateral gully running into the ranges has also been wrought; and here are the white hills, with their rugged outlines, in outward aspect and mineral character unique, and peculiar to Bendigo. While the nature of their contents were still a mystery, a party of diggers toiled patiently in sinking a shaft through 60 or 70 feet, and were rewarded by finding a rich deposit of the precious metal on the top of a bed of white pipeclay, of unknown depth. Through this they tunneled, bringing down the gold in profusion from the roof of their workings; but their proceedings were anxiously watched by many, and on the result being known, shafts were sunk, windlasses erected, and the summits of the hills soon became a busy hive of industry, while immense mounds of white earth rose from its crest and sides.

Our author leads us through many scenes of vari-coloured life, and those who follow him will, we assure them, be amused, as well as instructed. His descriptions of the diggings, and of the strangely congregated population who have settled from all climes and all countries in this singular land of promise, are graphically touched, and form interesting episodes in the history of real life. We can well conceive that it is often very difficult, even on the spot, to ascertain with certainty when, by whom, and in what manner a new gold district is first discovered; there are many motives for concealment, but the news at length spreads, a Government commissioner arrives, with horse and foot police, and almost as soon as the blacksmith extemporises a forge out of a few loose stones or turf sods, the Union Jack floats above the Government camp on the hill, and military sentinels are on duty before the gold tent.

A view of the commerce, revenue, and rise, of Melbourne, is unlike the commercial growth of a rising city, and rather resembles youth starting up at a bound to the full maturity of manhood; its population, which in 1836 was 224 persons, having reached in 1853, 250,000. Its exports, which in 1838 amounted to 21,000*l.*, reached in 1850 to 1,042,000*l.*, in 1852 amounted to 7,451,540*l.*, and in 1853 swelled to 9,080,574*l.*; while the increase of imports in the same year was equally striking, advancing from 71,000*l.* in 1838, to 754,000*l.* in 1850, to 4,067,742*l.* in 1852, and to 15,842,837*l.* in 1853. The revenue of the colony is also very re-

markable—in 1850 it amounted to 261,321*l.*, in 1851 it was 379,824*l.*, in 1852 it reached 1,576,801*l.*, and, in 1853, it swelled to 3,202,249*l.* A large part of these amounts was obtained from the sale of Crown lands, and the licenses to dig for gold yielded, in 1853, 660,838*l.*, the present reduced rate being 1*l.* per month, or 8*l.* for the year. The total produce of gold for 1853 was nearly 129 tons, valued, at 4*l.* per oz., 12,361,368*l.*, being upwards of 1,000,000*l.* a month; but, as we learn from the most recent advices, that the amount of gold shipped from Victoria, in the first nine months of 1854, amounted to 1,653,999 ozs., against 1,831,468 ozs. shipped during the first nine months of 1853, some decline will be observable during the last year. This is attributed, partly to the fact that a large part of the population has settled down to ordinary industrial, particularly agricultural pursuits, but still the average weekly produce in October last was about 40,000 ounces.

We have thus the country favoured above every other for the production of riches, and in possession of the largest revenue, as compared with its population, and still we find the colony in a state of barely suppressed insurrection. We are gratified to perceive Mr. WATKIN concurring with the views we have so recently expressed, and complaining that the last four years had seen no less than five Cabinet Ministers successively holding the destinies of our colonies in their hands. We quite agree with him, that to master the intricate questions submitted to their final decision would have demanded more time than the brief tenure of office of each of the last four of them, and that, as a natural consequence, matters affecting the vital interests of our colonial dependencies, perhaps to all future time, must either be crudely or hurriedly patched up, in some way disposed of, or else staved off to a more convenient period. The flimsy apology of the Government recently attempted in the House of Lords, in reply to the Earl of DERBY, to palliate the appointment and absence of Lord JOHN RUSSELL from his duties as Colonial Minister, will, we fear, form a very unsatisfactory answer to the clamorous requirements of the colonists. It is, however, some satisfaction to learn that the majority of the victims in the recent outbreak were foreigners, and could not boast of British origin.

We regret to part from Mr. WATKIN; his pages present to us the Golden Colony in a new and picturesque form, and the narrative is varied by many incidents, interesting in their character, and admirably described. The general reader will find in the pages of Mr. WATKIN much valuable information in a condensed and popular form; the emigrant will be enabled from the scenes which, as an eye-witness, he depicts, to guide his future steps in the selection of a settlement; and the mercantile community will here learn the proper sources to which the spirit of commercial enterprise should direct its attention.

In our last Journal we referred to the decision of the Lords Justices of Appeal, affirming the proposition laid down by the Master of the Rolls in the case of *HART v. CLARKE*, that there was not any custom established conferring a power in cost-book mining companies of declaring shares forfeited for non-payment of calls, in the absence of express stipulation and contract between the parties entered in, and appearing upon, the cost-book. On a question of such importance to the Cost-book System, and to the mining interest in general, Lord Justice TURNER, in delivering the judgment of the Court of Appeal, observed—"I fully agree with the Master of the Rolls that the evidence fails to establish the custom of forfeiture on which the defendants have insisted. The right of forfeiture is one *strictissimi juris*, and the evidence to establish such a right ought to be clear and distinct. But the evidence on the part of the defendants on this point seems to me to be far from satisfactory." The Court accordingly came to the conclusion that there does not exist in cost-book mines a right to declare shares forfeited, unless the deed of settlement, or cost-book, contains express provisions empowering forfeiture; and the evidence in this case appeared strongly confirmed by the practice of the Stannaries' Court, which is not to declare the shares forfeited, but to sell them, and to hand back to the defaulters the surplus proceeds, after payment of calls in arrear.

It will be seen, however, on reference to the report, that irrespective of the abstract question, the decree of the Master of the Rolls in this particular case was materially varied on the appeal. The Court below had been of opinion that the declaration of the forfeiture worked a determination of the adventure, so far as the plaintiff was concerned, and gave the defendants a right to take the plaintiff's interest at its then value, accounting to him for the subsequent profits, so far as they may have been derived from the excess above the amount of the calls in arrear. The Court of Appeal could not concur in this adjudication, and considered the proper decree to be—to declare that the adventure ought to be determined, and to determine it accordingly; directing an account of the expenditure, and of the sums contributed by the plaintiff and defendants respectively for that purpose; an account also of the produce and profits received by each respectively, with directions that in taking the accounts the defendants be allowed interest at 5 per cent. on the excess of their expenditure, and that the plaintiff be not allowed to call in question any expenditure *bona fide* made in carrying on the mine, the plaintiff undertaking to pay his due proportion of the expenses to be incurred beyond the receipts. The appointment of a receiver and manager was also directed, with liberty to each party to propose himself. The question of sale was reserved for further consideration; the Court, however, refused the plaintiff his costs. We understand that it has been determined on the part of the defendants to appeal to the House of Lords from the decree as varied, on several grounds—amongst them, that the evidence of the custom to forfeit ought to have been declared sufficiently established; also, that the plaintiff had, by his laches and delay, disentitled himself to any decree whatever, and that his bill ought to have been dismissed with costs. As the points are of considerable importance to the mining interests, the decision of the final court of appeal will settle several disputed questions in the law bearing on the Cost-book System, until which decision, however, our readers should pause before adopting the judgment of the Lords Justices, as enunciating the law of forfeiture in cost-book cases. It will be seen also, that the case involves serious equitable considerations, applicable to its own peculiar circumstances.

The ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY have held their adjourned meeting, and although the results have not been so favourable, probably, as many of the shareholders would have anticipated, yet, when circumstances are taken into consideration, it will be seen that they are in no worse position than many of their competitors. The great cause which has impeded returns has been the want of a sufficient supply of water, and to prove how general has been that deficiency, we quote from a local correspondent:—"In mines the cry for water is general, the want of it is intense in all the mining regions. Except in those portions furnished by canals and ditches, comparatively nothing is doing. The late season, too, will serve to bring a winter's work into some three months, where the miners depend upon natural water. Under these circumstances, it is impossible for miners to produce an average quantity of gold dust for the season. The expense which accumulates during such a long drought places many a hard-working man in a position where he finds it almost beyond his power to save wages, after paying expenses. A fortunate strike can alone enable him to make money. Such a condition of things is to be deeply regretted. These adverse causes operate to produce despondency, and are demoralising in their influences. The only safe remedy is to multiply and extend canals and ditches for mining purposes."

The day is not far distant that will see nearly the entire body of water running from the summit of the Sierra Nevada diverted from its natural channel, and carried in canals and ditches, over hills and through valleys, to points where it is needed to assist the miner in extracting the gold from the auriferous soil in which it is now so safely embedded. "When this day arrives, mining will have been reduced to a system, and miners furnished with water at a low price; unless, indeed, the rivers should dry up." From the statements of the chairman, it appears that large quantities of quartz are at surface, and the crushing and amalgamating has only been delayed on account of the defective supply of water. The company, however, are in debt; and to liquidate this, the directors propose 1*s.* per share, to be paid out of the first assets of the company,—in fact, they ask the shareholders, *pro rata*, in order to preserve their own property, to lend themselves the money.

The sett is acknowledged by all who have visited it to be of great value; this opinion is corroborated by Mr. BURGOYNE, the creditor of the company, who is so satisfied with his security. It must be borne in mind that, although no returns have been made, yet the expenditure of the company has been kept within compass, and less has been disbursed than in several others where great promises have been made, and no machinery erected, or work performed. So soon as the rainy season arrived the quartz raised would be available for crushing; and it was anticipated that when they obtained water the crushing would be continuous, so that a

practical and working result would be arrived at. This test, had it not have been for the unfortunate and untoward circumstances detailed by the chairman, would have been attained. The necessary funds which are now being raised, we trust, will enable the association not only to liquidate their debts, but as well place the company on a sure and stable footing.

The columns of this Journal had been the original medium of introducing to public notice four lectures on Geology and Mining, read at the Mechanics' Institutes of Leeds, Hull, Bradford, &c., by our esteemed correspondent, Mr. GEORGE HENWOOD, M.E. They were considered of such value, as well from the interest they excited as from the information, combined with instruction, which they presented, that it was deemed desirable to publish them together in a cheap form. They are dedicated by the author to Sir C. LEMON, Bart., M.P., F.R.S., F.G.S., President of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society, and the patronage of his name is in itself a sufficient test of their excellence. They have, however, a still stronger claim on the attention of all those interested in mining operations, when we announce that all the contents are collected from actual observations, and that they are published at the earnest solicitations of the societies before whom they were read. We had, as they appeared, added the tribute of our approbation to the encomiums passed upon them by the important and intelligent bodies to whom they were addressed, and the best evidence of their value to the practical student is an enumeration of the subjects to which they were devoted. The first or introductory lecture opens the study of geology and mineralogy as sources of interesting and valuable information. The second introduces the reader to the tin stream works in the county of Cornwall. The third embraces the metaliferous veins or lodes of Devon and Cornwall, and the methods of mining them; and the series concludes with a lecture on the manipulation of the ores of Devon and Cornwall to render them marketable. With perfect practical knowledge Mr. HENWOOD combines industry and research, and we can assure our readers that the scenes he has visited, and the processes he explains, are described in a popular style, with clearness of detail and simplicity of illustration.

A meeting of the adventurers in WHEAL CREBOR was convened for the 8th inst., but at which it accidentally happened that no member of the committee was present. The shareholders who had assembled naturally felt annoyed, and, on partially examining the cost-sheets submitted by the secretary, fancied they discovered a want of due supervision of the accounts, and attention to the interests of the shareholders, and hastily passed a series of resolutions reflecting on the general management of the company, which they directed to be advertised in the MINING JOURNAL. The secretary, previous to fulfilling what was undoubtedly his duty—carrying out his instructions so conveyed—consulted the committee, and some of the more influential shareholders, who agreed that the course proposed should not be adopted, and desired him to wait the result of the adjourned meeting called for Thursday last. Much interest in the matter had been created among the proprietors, and a considerable assemblage was the consequence; the result of the deliberations (as detailed in another column) being confirmatory of the conduct of the secretary, and the passing of a resolution, "That the committee of management are entitled to the fullest confidence." At various times, we have had occasion to speak of Wheal Crebor, and its management, and can now repeat what we have always affirmed, that the committee appear to be thoroughly competent, and actuated by an earnest desire to promote the welfare of the company; and that the greatest regularity and economy prevail in the conduct of the mining operations and official arrangements. We are also glad to find, from the report, that the mine is progressing most favourably, the returns having doubled in about six months; and we heartily wish a successful issue to the workings, which have been carried on with undoubted spirit and perseverance. In concluding these remarks, however, we must express our satisfaction at finding the determination evinced by the dissentients, in enforcing their views, when they imagined cause for censure existed, and so interesting themselves in their affairs; while the result must likewise be satisfactory to the committee, in showing that their conduct is appreciated by so many of their co-adventurers, and that, under their guidance, the undertaking is likely to prove prosperous for "One and All."

A new and very unexpected movement has been made by certain shareholders in the GENERAL SCREW STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY, who, while professing to take an independent course, are evidently intent on perpetuating the power of the present directors, or substituting for them their own nominees at the board. The first step in this extraordinary course of action appears in the shape of a circular, containing a requisition to the board for the holding of a special general meeting of the company, at which, among other business, it is proposed to suspend, or rescind, the clause in the Deed which prohibits any shareholder who has not held 100 shares for six months from being qualified to be elected as a director. For the present we confine ourselves to a few observations upon this very serious, and, we apprehend, equally dangerous experiment.

What ought to be the money qualification of a director it is not necessary that we should now discuss; but we have the strongest grounds for assuming the present to be the most inopportune time for proposing any change in the regulations of the company, in that respect, which could have been possibly selected. Since the beginning of November there has been nothing but dissension between the great body of shareholders, and the directors and their immediate friends; and the latter party has been so frequently defeated, that the members of the board, finding themselves to be in a decided minority, announced their resignation to be in force from some day not later than the 4th of April, with the view of having their successors appointed in the interim. Thereupon a requisition, most numerous and influentially signed, was presented to nine duly qualified gentlemen to become candidates for the vacant seats, to which they consented; and notices to that effect were officially given to the board about a month ago. Besides which the candidature of nearly as many other shareholders was made public. There being, therefore, no lack of candidates ready for office, under the existing qualification, it is evident to us that this new movement is got up for no other purpose than to serve a special interest.

The consideration of so grave a question, when the minds of the proprietors are excited by other disagreements, and in a great degree biased by party views, is, to say the least of it, a very hazardous attempt. More than ordinary caution should be observed in entering upon such a question at the most appropriate period for its examination; whilst, at this moment, its hasty solution in the affirmative may more seriously imperil the prosperity of the company, than the admitted mismanagement by which its affairs have been brought to their present unsatisfactory and unpleasant position.

Ocean steam shipping companies, of all others, are peculiarly liable to directorial jobbery. Their foreign agencies, instead of being appointments independently made in promotion of the common benefit alone, may be so constituted as to contribute to the special advantage of some connections of the board. For instance, the best descriptions of coal for steamers is exported from this country, so that, for a company having many coaling stations abroad, supplies must be continually in course of transit by sailing vessels; and, in spite of the most complete arrangements, contrary winds will sometimes occasion scanty stocks at the out ports. Should a steamer in that case put in for a supply, she usually obtains it from the agent's own store (purchased in all probability at low rates from ships carrying out coal as ballast) at prices that would appear fabulous to the uninitiated; at a charge, in fact, that an independent, or unofficially connected, agent would never venture to make. We may further illustrate our meaning by reference to the supplies of fresh provisions, &c., required by passenger steamers touching at out ports, the charges for which amount to enormous sums, and are open to corresponding malversation.

Now, it appears to us that it not only behoves such a proprietary as the General Screw Steam Shipping Company to take care that no one shall have a seat at the board who is directly, or indirectly, interested with any foreign agency; but that every director shall have such a stake in the concern as shall insure the full performance of his duty towards the shareholders at large, for the sake of his own property, and that next to his known disassociation from any business advantage which he might, as a director create, and to his qualification as a holder of stock, he should be chosen (wherever these elements of preference are found united), for his long-standing in the proprietary, and his experience in the operations of the company. We repeat, therefore, our caution to the proprietors, not to overthrow, on this occasion, those standing laws of the company, and by that means, upset, in haste, what they may have deeply to repent of hereafter, at unavailing leisure.

THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN BIRMINGHAM.]

MARCH 15.—The failures of Messrs. Rose, Fletcher, and Co., and Mr. Thomas Spencer, to which I alluded in my last letter, and the rumours of other commercial disasters of greater magnitude, still engross the attention of all engaged in the iron trade, and give rise to unpleasant forebodings as to the ultimate result of the next quarterly settlements. By many it is feared they are only the beginning of a series of embarrassments, likely to develop a system of unsound credit and bill traffic, which it is impossible to uphold under restricted bank accommodation, and which, it is said, has been carried on to a serious extent. Mr. Spencer's affairs are most unsatisfactory, there not being more property than will yield some 2s. in the pound on his 80,000*l.* of liabilities. The debts are, it is true, distributed over a large body of creditors; but many of them are poor, and can ill bear the loss. In the circular announcing the failure, it is stated that the inability to pay has been caused by the embarrassments of others. Messrs. Rose, Fletcher, and Co.'s debts are estimated at 60,000*l.*, with probable assets of 6s. in the pound. All, however, depends upon the realisation of funds, from, perhaps, rather doubtful sources. Of the more serious rumours nothing definite is yet known, beyond the fact that an immense number of bills are running belonging to the parties, and that time and indulgence on the part of the holders may be necessary to enable the acceptors to be able to meet them. If, however, a severe pressure comes, it will be difficult to meet it, and the loss will be severely felt by many. Under these circumstances, it is needless to say the general trade rules exceedingly dull throughout the district, and must continue inactive until after quarter-day. A considerable number of furnaces have been blown out entirely, and at very few of the works are the men on more than half-time. There has not been any resistance worth noticing to the reduction of wages; and the prices at which all kinds of iron are selling are exceedingly low, and such as could not have been anticipated a few months ago. The various local journals interested in the trade, and well acquainted with its position, write very gloomy concerning it this week, and with only one redeeming feature—namely, the continuance of favourable news from the United States. Last week I mentioned that some orders for iron had been received here from America, and since then more favourable advices have been received, all indicating an improved state of things in New York and the other principal cities. There can be little doubt of a satisfactory change having taken place throughout the chief states, and we are certain to reap the benefit of it during the ensuing summer. Add to this encouraging news, from so important a market, rather an improvement in our own home trade, and the commercial embarrassments which have set in are much to be regretted.

Orders for general Hardware for the American market are also satisfactory, and additional hands, in various branches, have been set on this work. In the Jewellery, and other fancy trades, the orders are very slack, and many superior hands are on half-time.

In the Metal Market there has not been any change reported this week. The demand is light and stocks rather heavy, but not such as to force the dealers into any reduction of price. It is satisfactory to find, notwithstanding the rather doubtful state of the iron trade, that a meeting of more than ordinary interest to the miners, and one reflecting great credit on the noble lords and others who took part in it, has lately been held at Hill-top. The meeting was convened for the distribution of the Iron and Coal Masters' Prize Fund amongst the members of the schools established for the children of the miners in the neighbourhood. Amongst those present were the Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Calthorpe, Walter Williams, Esq., T. Jesson, Esq., T. Manley, Esq., T. Bagnall, Esq., J. N. Bagnall, Esq., and several other mine owners, who have taken a deep interest in the schools. The Earl of Dartmouth presided, and delivered an appropriate address, and was followed by Lord Calthorpe and others, in commendation of the great and laudable efforts now being made by the gentlemen of the district to secure for the children of the miners and others that education of which, until very lately, the mining population had been deprived. The distribution of the prizes was a very interesting ceremony, and one well calculated to produce the desired results among the recipients. A meeting of another description, and of considerable importance to the gun trade, was held here to-day.

Since the commencement of the war, Lord Palmerston, and other members of the Government, have received several communications relative to the defective system of proving guns and pistols at the London and Birmingham proof-houses, and the great injury which arose to the gun trade of England from the deficiency in this respect. Enquiries were set on foot, and it was ascertained that the Belgian gun-makers had recently established a barrel-proof superior to that of England; and that in consequence of the increased security which they gave to the public, the sale of Belgian guns, &c., had increased, and the sale of English made decreased in proportion. To remedy the evil, a bill has been recently introduced into Parliament, at the instance of the Guardians and Trustees of the London and Birmingham proof-houses, entitled "A Bill for insuring the due proof of gun barrels in England, and for other purposes." This bill contains several clauses which are highly objectionable to the gun-makers, and the meeting to-day was called to consider and denounce them. It was a numerous and influential assemblage, presided over by Mr. J. D. Goodman; and amongst those present were Messrs. Joshua Bourne, Charles Osborne, J. F. Swinburne, Pryse, Westley, Richards, Harris, P. Turner, J. Hollis, Chas. Faulkner, Hart, W. Tranter, E. Millard, W. Scott, Playfair, J. Sheath, C. Lawden, and Mr. Richards, solicitor to the Proof-house Company. The first resolution condemned the principle of self-election, upon which the Proof-house Company is founded, and which is provided for in the new bill. The second resolution, however, admitted the necessity of a change which calls for an amended system of proof, and called upon the authorities of the Proof-house to co-operate in remodelling the bill, so as to provide for a new system of proof, at once satisfactory to purchasers and manufacturers—the lowest possible scale of fees for proof—publication of accounts—publication of classified lists of barrels proved—choice of guardians by other means than those of self-election, and such other powers as may be deemed necessary. Various clauses, including the appointment of inspectors, and some severe penalties for the infraction of the Act, were unanimously condemned; and the appointment of a committee to confer with the guardians, and a large subscription to oppose the bill, if necessary, closed the proceedings.

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

MARCH 16.—The uncertainty of any immediate prospects of peace, and the announcement of failures in Birmingham, have tended still further to depress the iron trade. It is, however, satisfactory to learn that these failures have not arisen from any unsoundness in the trade, but rather from over speculation and a free use of accommodation bills. These failures are said to be partly owing to their having exchanged their iron for American railroad securities, the late rise in which may enable them to surmount their difficulties. The demand for various descriptions of manufactured iron is about the same as reported last. The commercial advices received from New York this week are important, from the fact of the House of Representatives in Congress having suddenly adopted a bill authorising a reduction of one-fifth of the existing duties on imports. This measure has to pass the Senate, but a strong feeling prevails that it will be carried. If it should become law, iron, coal, copper, brass, zinc, cutlery, cotton and woolen fabrics, linen manufactures, and other goods, will pay 24 per cent. *ad valorem*, instead of 30 per cent. as heretofore.

The Derbyshire Pig-iron Trade, like the other branches of the iron trade, is dull and inactive, but as yet we are not aware that any movement is going on to check production by the blowing out of furnaces. The improved tone of the American advices is imparting a little vigour to the steel trade, but the paucity of orders from the United States, which are great consumers of cutlery, maintains the inactivity which has for some time prevailed in the demand for cutlery manufactures. The market for Scotch Pig-iron remains firm at the late advance. Mixed numbers are quoted at 57*s.*

The demand for Coals is gradually becoming more inactive; and the present state of the weather, and the doubts respecting the continuance of the war, are not likely to improve it.

The depression in the Cotton and Woollen Trades has slackened the demand for machinery, but there is an enquiry for locomotive railway stock. Mr. William Fairbairn, the eminent civil engineer, has been lecturing at the Manchester Mechanics' Institution, of which he is vice-president, on "The strength and form of vessels calculated to ensure safety, and resist the elastic force of steam; the relative proportion of due to furnaces

surface in boilers; and the relative value of high and low steam." The Lord Bishop of Manchester, and a large number of scientific men, were present. The lectures are about to be published by request. Explanations were given of various models and drawings of safety valves, and other arrangements for the security of steam boilers, by Mr. Fenton, Mr. Kay, and Mr. Edward T. Bellhouse. The safety-valve of Mr. Fenton consists of two globular valves under the same lever; at one end of the lever is an adjustable spiral spring, which, when set, can be covered up and locked, so as not to be interfered with; the other end of the lever has an ordinary spring balance. The peculiarity of this valve is that if a greater weight be put on the exposed end of the lever, the one-half valve becomes the fulcrum, and causes the other valve to be raised, and allow of the exit of steam at a lower pressure than the spiral spring is set to. Mr. Kay's valve is on the piston principle, so arranged as to afford a large area for the emission of steam.—Mr. Bellhouse explained the nature of Cowburn's oscillating safety valve, a spherical valve on a concave seating, loaded with dead weight; he also explained some large diagrams of vacuum and float valves, the joint invention of himself and Mr. Cowburn.—These descriptions seemed interesting to a great number who remained after the lecture.

The frost having broken up, another dressing of ore is taking place at the Brightside Mine, Derbyshire. The quantity having rapidly accumulated during the frost, it is, of necessity, the largest mass of ore on sale that has ever been seen at the Brightside. The sales at this mine are always effected by private contract, Mr. Royce, of Castleton, having had for some time past the entire monopoly, the Brightside ore being peculiarly adapted for his other ores, in consequence of its being a good flux for them.

The Peak United Mine is, to a certain extent, a continuation of the Norcliff Sough Mine, or sett, the boundary being merely a course of wooden stakes; as the principal Norcliff Sough veins cross the Peak United sett, and render that mine the more valuable, a recent discovery—viz., the cutting of one of the Norcliff veins in its course across the Peak United—having rendered the latter a still more valuable mine. It has paid great dividends, and was never known to be in a richer state than it is at the present time, which gives buoyancy to this stock, the shares having been purchased by natives of the locality at the highest price recently asked and quoted. The great depreciation of mining stock in general, the consequence of the continuance of the war, had previously affected this as well as other valuable mines in the Peak of Derbyshire; but on the whole the various adventures were never known to be in a better state. A new boiler has arrived at the Wren Park, and in course of erection; and, when in operation, several anticipated results will, no doubt, be realised.

The social condition of the mining population in Derbyshire is highly favourable, as compared with that of most other mines, there being at the present time a less number of paupers in the county of Derby than in any other province in England.

The Clay Cross Coal and Iron Company, near Chesterfield, have commenced the erection of schools for the education of the children of their numerous workmen. The design for the building is an elegant one, and admirably adapted for schools. A portion of the edifice will also be fitted up as a public room. The structure will cost between 3000*l.* and 4000*l.* The progress of these works, which are the most thriving in Derbyshire, and who carry out all their arrangements with much enterprise and spirit, are Sir S. M. Peto, Bart., Mr. Betts, Sir Joshua Walsley, Knt., and Mr. Jackson, M.P.

The receipt of favourable news from Vienna gave an impulse to the local share market in the early part of the week, but the absence of confirmatory intelligence caused them to recede again.

STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.]

MARCH 15.—Stocks and shares have been very steady during the past week, and the fluctuations unimportant, the principal alteration being in Cork and Bandon Railway shares, which suffered a decline of 2*s.* per share. Large transactions have taken place in Great Southern and Western Railway shares, as it is considered that a very large increase of traffic is likely to ensue by the formation of the camp at the Curragh of Kildare. I now give the prices of those shares in which transactions have taken place to-day:—Hibernian Bank, 32; National Bank, 26*½*; Royal Bank, 19*½*; Dublin and Liverpool Steam, 44*½*; Consumers' Gas, 8*½*; Mining Company of Ireland, 16*½*; Dublin and Kingstown, 160; Great Southern and Western, 102; Ditto, 4 per cent. Preference (8*s.* paid), 64; Ditto, 4 per cent. Preference (20*s.* paid), 184; Midland Great Western, 494; Consols closed firm at 93, and New Three Per Cents at 93*½*.

Two miners, who were lately tried at Exeter for kitting, and acquitted, have sued, in the Tavistock County Court, the Devon Great Consols Mining Company for a balance alleged to be due to them previous to their being discovered in the supposed offence. This was resisted on the part of the defendants, on the ground that, according to the customs of mines, they had forfeited all moneys coming to them; the rule in cases of kitting being that "the pitch shall at once be forfeited, and every tributer shall also forfeit the ores that shall have been broken during the take so put an end to parties who were not implicated in the kitting; and the judge, considering that he had been engaged, as well as all moneys then or thereafter due to him, besides which he will be liable to be prosecuted." Mr. J. V. Bridgman, the plaintiffs' advocate, contended that, as they had been acquitted at Exeter, the company had no right to resist their claim. The judge, Mr. W. M. Praed, observed that he was bound to hear and decide on the evidence without referring to anterior circumstances. The present case was similar to one of arson, where, although persons have been acquitted on the criminal charge, insurance companies have refused to pay the money claimed by them. At the time the case was first tried, the plaintiffs were working with other parties who were not implicated in the kitting; and the judge, considering that it might lead to an infringement of the partnership laws, gave judgment in their favour. Another action was then brought, for a balance presumed to be due to the plaintiffs at the time when the alleged kitting was discovered; this was subsequently abandoned. In the county of Cornwall, by a special Act of Parliament, parties guilty of this offence are liable to be prosecuted for felony. On the Devonshire side of the Tamar this is not the case, nor do the offenders labour under the same disadvantage in the civil courts. It is anticipated that the bill about to be introduced by Mr. Collier, the Member for Plymouth, will tend to assimilate the mining law; it being a great inconsistency that offences should be triable on one side of the river and not on the other. Mr. Chilcott applied, on behalf of the company, for costs, which was opposed on the other hand, that no application had been made for such purpose; and now that the claim had been abandoned, the company applied for costs, and that as the adjournment had taken place for agreement, the application ought not to be pressed. Mr. Chilcott said he represented Mr. Morris; they had been at a great expense in securing the services of Mr. Stokes, of Truro. Eventually, by the consent of the advocates, a rule nisi was made.

PRACTICAL TREATISE ON MINE ENGINEERING.—This useful work, of Mr. G. C. Greenwell's, is now completed, and the last numbers fully bear out the promises given in the previous parts. The substance of the work is founded upon a course of lectures delivered by the author at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the year 1852; these are now condensed, and illustrated with numerous plates, among which will be found a mineral map of the United Kingdom, sections of the strata in Durham, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, as well as in Prussia, Belgium, France, and the United States; plans, elevations, and sections of coke-ovens are likewise given, together with diagrams of condensing and Cornish pumping engines. The various tools used in mining operations are commented upon, and their uses fully described; the ventilating apparatus is likewise noticed; and there is an interesting chapter on the invention of the safety-lamp, dilating upon the peculiar properties of the several kinds which have been patented from the time of Sir Humphry Davy till the present period. The various causes from which accidents in mines arise are likewise treated of, as well as the means to be adopted for their prevention. In this case, Mr. Greenwell observes:—"The ventilation we are now able to establish, although there is no doubt but that in the course of a few years we shall see it largely increased, is sufficient for most cases, if not for all: casualties of explosion, so long as unprotected lights are used in the working of deep mines will inevitably occur." Further, he recommends that all mines should have accurate plans, upon which the workings should be registered within a few weeks of their actual condition, as by this means accidents arising from old workings full of water, or foul air, could never occur. With these remarks we fully concur, as there is no doubt that the majority of accidents in mines arise either from carelessness or recklessness. The work, at the same time it will be of great utility to the practical miner, cannot fail to be perused with interest by all those who are concerned in the development of the mineral industry of the United Kingdom; and as all unnecessary technicalities are avoided, it can be easily understood by the general reader. There have been many and more elaborate works published, both on geology and mining, but we do not think that any work has yet been issued affording information so briefly, yet at the same time so concisely, as that of Mr. Greenwell.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND now reaches above the sum of 1,000,000*l.* The last return from the Royal Commissioners was nearly 900,000*l.*, in which list of contributions were the following sums:—10,000 from Leeds (first instalment), 5000 from Bombay (ditto), and 5000 from Calcutta (ditto). To this fund has yet to be added the City subscriptions from different wards, &c., which at present exceeds 90,000*l.*

EXPLOSION IN A COLLIERY.—An explosion of fire-damp occurred at an early hour on Thursday morning in a coal-pit at Dukinfield, near Ashton-under-Lyne, the property of the Dukinfield Coal Company, which was attended by the loss of four men and four horses, besides injury to four men, who were nearly suffocated by the sulphur, or after damp. The existence of sulphur in the workings prevented an effectual exploration of them for some time, and nearly six hours elapsed before the deceased were got out of the mine.

THE BRIMSTONE AND SODA TRADES.—The imports of brimstone, in the month ending February 5, 1855, were only 25,215 cwts., against 50,501 cwts. in 1854, or 50,917 cwts. in 1853. Of alkali (soda), the monthly exports for 1855 and 1854 respectively were 56,795 cwts. and 55,411 cwts.; whilst this year they have fallen to 32,704 cwts.—*Gateshead Observer.*

THE COST-BOOK SYSTEM—IMPORTANT JUDGMENT.

The following is a verbatim judgment of the Court of Appeal in the important mining case of Hart v. Clarke, being a decision negating the right of adventurers in a cost-book mine to forfeit an adventurer's interest for non-payment of calls, a rule to forfeit not being in the cost-book. Although this case has been several times presented to our readers, yet we are induced to give the judgment *in extenso*, as we are informed that the defendants have appealed to the House of Lords from the subjoined decision:—

Counsel for plaintiff:—ROUNDELL PALMER, Q.C., R. P. COLLIER, Q.C., and Mr. W. W. COOPER.—Solicitor: Mr. G. W. MARRISON.
Counsel for defendants:—D. S. FOLLETT, Q.C., Mr. T. TAPPING (of the Common Law Bar), and Mr. S. THOMPSON.—Solicitors: Messrs. BENNETT and STARR.

JUDGMENT.—Lord Justice TURNER: The plaintiff in this case, alleging himself to be a partner in a mining concern, has filed his bill to have the partnership dissolved, the accounts taken, and the property realised under the direction of the Court. The defendants, the co-adventurers in the mines, by their answer, insist that the plaintiff's shares in the mines have been forfeited, and that he has ceased to have any interest in the concern. The adventure in question originated in an agreement dated the 14th November, 1848, by which the plaintiff purchased from William Clemence his interest in the mines, under a take-note granted to him by Lieutenant-General Wyndham, and on the 16th Nov., 1848, a meeting took place between the plaintiff and defendant, and George William Horn, at which they determined to adopt the agreement, and the following resolutions were passed:—It was resolved, in the first place, to adopt the agreement. They determined to advise the purchase, and the purchase having been made, it was resolved, "That the report be received, and the agreement confirmed. That these mines be worked on the Cost-book System, as recognised in Cornwall, or such other system as the directors hereafter named shall deem more expedient. That meetings be held monthly, and that three directors do form a quorum. That where four proprietors are present, and the chairman exercises his privilege of giving a casting vote, the subject so decided shall be confirmed at a meeting which shall be called specially for that purpose. That this society be called the Goldscope Mining Company. That the sum of 1500*l.* be raised on six shares of 250*l.* each, payable by instalments, the said number of shares being agreed to be held as hereafter mentioned—that is to say, Mr. Andrew Richard Clarke, two shares; Mr. Charles Nicholas Patrick Chapman, two shares; George William Horn, one share; Mr. Thomas Hart, one share (six shares). That an instalment of 50*l.* per share be now made, payable at Messrs. Willis, Perceval, and Company, to the credit of the Goldscope Mining Company. That all cheques on behalf of this company shall be drawn at a meeting of the committee, and signed by two of the directors present. That Mr. Hart be appointed manager, to act gratuitously under the direction of the committee, until the funds shall exhibit an actual profit to the company, per annum. It does not appear that the parties came to any further agreement as to the terms on which the adventure was to be carried on. George William Horn afterwards retired from the concern, and by a deed dated the 16th January, 1849, assigned his share to the plaintiff and the defendants, who agreed to take it in equal proportions, the plaintiff and the defendants then becoming interested in the mines in the following proportions:—Mr. Clarke, 7-18ths; Mr. Chapman, 7-18ths; and the plaintiff, 4-18ths.

After the retirement of Mr. Horn, Lieutenant-General Wyndham granted a lease of the mines to the plaintiff and the defendants, the plaintiff, in pursuance of the partnership agreement, took upon himself the management of the concern, and he continued to act as manager down to the month of November, 1849. Upwards of 3000*l.* had at this time been expended on the mines, and it appears from the correspondence that still further expenditure would be required, and the plaintiff was unable to meet his proportion of it, otherwise than by a sale of a portion of his interest in the mines. A scheme appears to have been about this time set on foot for disposing of part of the mines in shares, and it advanced so far that the plaintiff agreed to sell scheme, with a view to meet his share of the expenses of the mines; but before this project was carried out the defendants raised objections to the scheme, and it ultimately fell to the ground.

In the course of the correspondence which passed about this period, there is a letter from the plaintiff to the defendant, dated the 27th November, 1849, upon which much reliance was placed on the part of the defendants, and in which the plaintiff, having adverted to his not having then succeeded in finding a purchaser of the shares to which he would be entitled under the proposed scheme, expressed himself as follows. This is a letter addressed by the plaintiff to Mr. Clarke:—"I hope you will soon be in London again, that something may be definitely arranged respecting my position in the company. If I cannot pay my calls, my shares in Goldscope will be advertised in our next meeting, and when notice has been given of the intention of the company, they will be forfeited, unless the money be paid. This is the usual mode of proceeding, and which I shall endeavour to avoid." But the plaintiff alleges that he expressed himself thus under a misconception of the powers of the defendants; and it appears from the evidence that soon afterwards he informed the defendants that they had no right to forfeit his shares, and that subsequently, in his letter of the 3d April, 1850, to which I shall presently refer, he distinctly repudiated that statement. The plaintiff being thus unable to meet his proportion of the expenses of the mines, the defendants, in the month of November, 1849, displaced him from the management, and took upon themselves to manage and carry on the mines. They appear from time to time to have made calls to meet the expenses, and to have applied to the plaintiff for payment of the calls, which he was still unable to answer. The arrears of calls due from the plaintiff at the end of March, 1850, amounted, as is alleged by the defendants, to upwards of 200*l.*, and on the 3d of April, 1850, the defendant Chapman wrote to the plaintiff the following letters. The first letter is from Chapman to the plaintiff, in these terms:—"Sir: I am instructed to inform you that a call of 12*s.* per share has this day been made upon the shares of the Goldscope Mining Company, and to request that such calls, amounting to 16*s.*, upon your shares (as well as all arrears due at this date) be paid to the credit of the company at their bankers, immediately. I am also desired to give you notice that unless the above call, and your arrears, are paid on or before the 30th inst., your shares will be declared forfeited, in accordance with the company's agreement." The other letter, of the same date, from Mr. Chapman to Mr. Hart, is in these terms:—"My Dear Sir: In handing you, on the other side, a notice for a further call, to enable us to prosecute our mining operations, I cannot but regret the opportunity of extending the regret of Mr. Clarke and myself at your total rejection of our proposition of the 26th ult., which was made on our parts in the true spirit of equity, honour, and justice. For myself, I can only regret that, through the disappointment and large expenditure are in themselves matters of extreme vexation, yet they are comparatively little compared with the annoyance of finding the onus of the support of the adventure thrown upon us in an improper manner, and in an unfair proportion, whilst the very party who conducted the management up to last November, when the main part of our cost was made, now, in the face of large arrears, infers want of capability to our management, and refuses to yield any amount for our advances. I can only conclude only with wishing you will make some speedy settlement of this unpleasant business."

In answer to these letters, the plaintiff, on the 5th April, 1850, wrote to Mr. Chapman, desiring to see the cost-book and cost-sheet, and on the 8th April, 1850, he again wrote to Mr. Chapman, as follows:—"My Dear Sir: I shall be obliged by your informing me when I could see the cost-book and the cost-sheets from October last, as Mr. Clarke has consulted Mr. Bragg [that was the agent of Lieutenant-General Wyndham] upon the subject of our engagements. You must know, or ought to know, you can only dissolve our partnership with my consent, and that you possess no power to forfeit my shares, or to demand the expenses of the management, &c., consequently this little affects me. You object to my associating with shareholders whom you do not know, and then put difficulties in the way of converting my property into cash, that I might pay you, and then threaten me with the forfeiture of my shares if I do not. Perhaps this may be called equity. You will not buy the property yourselves, and prevent my selling it to others. This, perhaps, is justice. You keep the expenditure a secret, part of which I am requested to pay. You take possession of the ores raised, of which no account is given. You make discoveries of them in the waste, and leave it standing until my shares are, as you believe, forfeited, although, for aught you or I know, there may be sufficient to pay all claims upon me. This you call honour. Has there not been a regular accumulation of costs? Has the ore been sold? And, if not, why not, when such ore was ready for the market six months ago? Is the ore of no value? Is the lead standing in Yewthwaite of no value? And yet the whole of the costs incurred must be paid to Mr. Clarke. Query, what are they, and how have they been incurred?"

These letters were followed by a letter from Mr. Chapman to the plaintiff, dated the 24th May, 1850, which is in these terms. Mr. Chapman to Mr. Hart:—"Finding your arrears of calls due to the Goldscope Mining Company have not been paid at this date, the company have determined on convening a meeting at this office to-morrow evening, at half-past 5, p.m., for the purpose of forfeiting your shares in the property, in pursuance of their notice to you of the 3d ult."

To this letter the plaintiff replied on the following day, the 3d of May, in these terms:—"My Dear Sir: I have to acknowledge yours of yesterday's date. As I do not intend to assign any part of our joint leasehold property in Cumberland, without I get paid for it, nor to part with it in any other way, unless I get an equivalent value, according to my estimate of its worth, I beg to state you are committing an error of folly by the course you are pursuing, and feel confident you will regret having done so, should I be provoked by a continuance of this absurdity. I have before told you, and repeat it, you have no power to deprive me of my share of the leasehold property we possess. I have hitherto shown forbearance towards you, in consequence of the unfair proportion of money you have been obliged to pay on my account; however, you will recollect I had once an opportunity to sell your shares as well as my own in this adventure, and that after we had seen the effect of working in Goldscope—this you rejected, and thus was I deprived by yourself of the chance (for the first time) of liquidating all claims on me in this undertaking." On the next day, the 4th May, 1850, Mr. Chapman again wrote to the plaintiff, committing to him a resolution for extending the time for payment of his calls to the 15th of May; and in answer to this letter, the plaintiff, on the 6th of May, again wrote to Chapman as follows:—"The plaintiff to Mr. Chapman:—"6th May.—My dear Sir: Yours of the 4th inst. is now before me. I take occasion once again to tell you I think the only probable chance you have of getting from me certain sums of money which you claim is by the sale of my proportion of the property I have the misfortune to possess in conjunction with yourself and Mr. Clarke; this I have offered to you at a sacrifice of 200*l.*, which you have declined. Finding you would neither purchase it yourselves, nor permit me to sell it to others, that I might pay your claims (so far as they are just), I offered to submit our differences to arbitration, and abide the decision of the arbitrators; this, also, you rejected, preferring (a somewhat anomalous idea) I should give you what I do not possess, or borrow from a friend to give you a sum of money I might never have the power to return. As it is rather difficult to do an impossibility, the first proposition I shall not attempt to accomplish; and as the borrowing of money to get out of debt is not in accordance with my opinion of an Englishman's method of liquidating a claim, I shall decline it. If a loss is to be sustained, let such loss fall on those through whose improvidence these losses are sustained. I shall lose 500*l.* and you 3000*l.*; for, be assured, you must either buy my interest, and thus take legitimate possession of the whole property, or dispose of the mine in the way I have indicated, or lose the whole which has been risked in this undertaking." Then he goes a little more into discussion on the subject, and he says at the close of his letter:—"But should you, after all (as is my opinion), take the wiser course, and endeavour to dispose of the mines in shares, or otherwise, the entire moneys raised from the sale of my proportion of the property should be paid into your hands, until the whole of the claims on me (with interest) be paid you; furthermore, I promise to use my best exertions to sell your shares (after my own are disposed of), you allowing me for so doing 25 per cent. on all sales so effected by me, or by my means indirectly. If you think you can do better than this, try your resolutions (you know mine), attempt it, and take the consequences."

From the plaintiff to Mr. Chapman:—"6th May.—My dear Sir: I have to acknowledge yours of yesterday's date. As I do not intend to assign any part of our joint leasehold property in Cumberland, without I get paid for it, nor to part with it in any other way, unless I get an equivalent value, according to my estimate of its worth, I beg to state you are committing an error of folly by the course you are pursuing, and feel confident you will regret having done so, should I be provoked by a continuance of this absurdity. I have before told you, and repeat it, you have no power to deprive me of my share of the leasehold property we possess. I have hitherto shown forbearance towards you, in consequence of the unfair proportion of money you have been obliged to pay on my account; however, you will recollect I had once an opportunity to sell your shares as well as my own in this adventure, and that after we had seen the effect of working in Goldscope—this you rejected, and thus was I deprived by yourself of the chance (for the first time) of liquidating all claims on me in this undertaking." On the next day, the 4th May, 1850, Mr. Chapman again wrote to the plaintiff, committing to him a resolution for extending the time for payment of his calls to the 15th of May; and in answer to this letter, the plaintiff, on the 6th of May, again wrote to Chapman as follows:—"The plaintiff to Mr. Chapman:—"6th May.—My dear Sir: Yours of the 4th inst. is now before me. I take occasion once again to tell you I think the only probable chance you have of getting from me certain sums of money which you claim is by the sale of my proportion of the property I have the misfortune to possess in conjunction with yourself and Mr. Clarke; this I have offered to you at a sacrifice of 200*l.*, which you have declined. Finding you would neither purchase it yourselves, nor permit me to sell it to others, that I might pay your claims (so far as they are just), I offered to submit our differences to arbitration, and abide the decision of the arbitrators; this, also, you rejected, preferring (a somewhat anomalous idea) I should give you what I do not possess, or borrow from a friend to give you a sum of money I might never have the power to return. As it is rather difficult to do an impossibility, the first proposition I shall not attempt to accomplish; and as the borrowing of money to get out of debt is not in accordance with my opinion of an Englishman's method of liquidating a claim, I shall decline it. If a loss is to be sustained, let such loss fall on those through whose improvidence these losses are sustained. I shall lose 500*l.* and you 3000*l.*; for, be assured, you must either buy my interest, and thus take legitimate possession of the whole property, or dispose of the mine in the way I have indicated, or lose the whole which has been risked in this undertaking." Then he goes a little more into discussion on the subject, and he says at the close of his letter:—"But should you, after all (as is my opinion), take the wiser course, and endeavour to dispose of the mines in shares, or otherwise, the entire moneys raised from the sale of my proportion of the property should be paid into your hands, until the whole of the claims on me (with interest) be paid you; furthermore, I promise to use my best exertions to sell your shares (after my own are disposed of), you allowing me for so doing 25 per cent. on all sales so effected by me, or by my means indirectly. If you think you can do better than this, try your resolutions (you know mine), attempt it, and take the consequences."

quence to yourselves; at the same time I am bound to tell you, as you are inclined to peace or war, so you will find your most obedient servant—THOMAS HART.

In this state of circumstances, the defendants, as they allege, on the 31st of May, 1850, declared the plaintiff's shares to be forfeited, the arrears due from him not having been paid, and they thereupon carried on the mines, as they contend, on their own account, to the plaintiff's detriment, and he claims compensation therefor. But, notwithstanding the alleged defendant's conduct afterwards, and on the 26th August, 1850, wrote to the plaintiff as follows:—"My dear Sir: Ever since I wrote you on the 4th May last, relative to your position in the Goldscope Mining Company, both Mr. Clarke and myself have been very desirous to afford ample time for you to make arrangements for the settlement of your debt to the company; and as we have, in our opinion, afforded you every opportunity, we must press the matter more particularly to your notice, and request an immediate payment of your liabilities. Every day is increasing your proportion of cost in the adventure, which, we think, you should be apprised of, and not let the affair so continue without some notice. You will perhaps recollect that at one of our meetings, in the early part of this year, an offer was made to give you a release of your share, and in the event of the adventure being successful we should not forget yourself in the division of profits, which then appeared far more probable than at the present time, when the appearance of the mines looks worse than ever. The proposition you rejected, and so we have proceeded on in the old way, paying out of our own pockets the cost that should be met by all the adventurers *pro rata*. We trust, therefore, you will be able to make us some proposition whereby the affair may be settled, and the awkwardness of all our positions be removed. Mr. Clarke, who is at the mines, promised to send you a statement of your debt: has he done so or not, I will urge him, when next I write, to do it at once."

The plaintiff does not appear to have taken any notice of this letter of August, 1850, and he seems to have remained quiescent until the 15th April, 1851, when, it would appear, that some intelligence must have reached him of an improvement having taken place in the prospects of the mines, for on that day he wrote to the defendants as follows:—"Gentlemen: It was with much pleasure I heard of your success in the Teuthwaite Mine, the detailed particulars of which I shall be obliged by your forwarding to me at your earliest convenience, together with the amount of costs incurred in this mine since my last payment, as also the returns of ores sold, &c." No answer having been returned to this letter, the plaintiff again wrote to the defendants, on the 31st October, 1851, to this effect:—"That not having been favoured with an answer, he had to state that if he did not receive a reply to this he should take the earliest opportunity, suitable with his convenience, to visit the mines, and then ascertain the state of the mines there, 'the expenses of which journey, in the settlement of our accounts, will necessarily be in part paid by yourselves.' He adds at the end—'At this time I think it might be for our advantage if a meeting for the purpose of business could take place between us in London; but unless there be an uniform inclination to attend to account the interest we possess in common, so far as the mines are concerned, we may be enabled to meet, and the information I require from you may be communicated by letter.' In answer to this, the defendant Clarke wrote to the plaintiff on the 1st November, 1851, in these terms:—"In answer to your letter of the 31st ult., I beg to refer you to Mr. Chapman's letter of the 4th May, 1850, and also to call your attention to one of your's, addressed to me, on the 27th November, 1849. [That is the letter in which the plaintiff had stated that there would be a right to forfeit the shares.] Provided you consider yourself entitled to any further information, all I can say is, the law is open to you, and the sooner you prove it the better." To this letter the plaintiff replied on the 10th Nov., 1851, in these terms:—"Your's from Warwick of the 1st inst., posted from Plymouth, I received two days since. When I wrote you last it was in the hope that by that time you would have seen the folly of the course you have taken. However, as it appears otherwise, so let it be we shall all be out of pocket until success, &c., shall enable us to repay all that has been expended in this unfortunate speculation. Should brighter days come, and you should resist the payment of my proportion of the interest I hold in this property, I shall take advantage of the kind advice you have so graciously given, and let the law render me that justice you appear to be so little gratified with; but as I shall not be disposed to consult the Lord Chancellor until acquainted with the law, I shall not be disposed to pay large sums, unless you will remain in peaceful possession of your wrong-doing until I find your intention to defraud me of my right is manifest by the fact, and then, if not before, you shall hear of me."

[To be concluded in our next Journal.]

CORNISH STEAM-ENGINES.

Abstract from *Brown's Cornish Engine Reporter*, from 20th Jan. to 21st Feb.:

PUMPING ENGINES.	
Number reported	24
Average load per square inch on the piston, in lbs.	13.1
Average number of strokes per minute	34
Gallons of water drawn per minute	4961
Average duty of 15 engines, being million lbs. lifted 1 ft. high by the consumption of 1 cwt. of coal	60.9
Actual horse-power employed per minute	1103.3
Average consumption of coals per horse-power per hour, in lbs.	3.4
ROTARY ENGINES.—WHIMS.	
Number reported	17
Number of kilibars drawn	37,301
Average depth of drawing, in fms.	132.6
Average number of horse-whim kilibars drawn the average depth by consuming 1 cwt. of coal	82.0
Average duty of 10 engines, as above	17.9
STAMPS.	
Number reported	5
Average number of strokes per minute	8
Average duty of three engines, as above	32.7
Actual horse-power employed per minute	106.7
FURNACE ENGINES.—DOUGLAS DUTY.	
Poway Consols, 30 in. single	Millions, 100.7
Par Consols, 30 in. single	99.3
Great Polgooth, 30 in. single	91.5
Par Consols, 72 and 36 in. Sims' combined	78.2
Pembroke and East Crinnis, 70 in. single	74.6
Pembroke and East Crinnis, 30 in. single	74.4
West Poway Consols, 60 in. single	72.8
Great Polgooth, 30 in. single	72.0
Trelawny, 30 in. single	70.2
WHIM ENGINES.	
Poway Consols, 22 in. double	Millions, 28.7
Par Consols, 24 in. single	23.6
Par Consols, 24 and 13 in. Sims' combined	21.9
South Canard, 30 and 16 in. Sims' combined	17.0
Great Polgooth, 22 in. double	17.1
STAMPING ENGINES.	
Wheal Ury, 36 in. single	Millions, 67.4
Great Polgooth, 35 in. double	68.7
South Canard, 26 in. single	47.0

MINING IN PENZANCE DISTRICT.—Since I last wrote you, I have taken another ramble, both west and east of Penzance, and have been informed that several mines have stopped working from want of sufficient capital to carry them out; while others are almost on the eve of ceasing, which at present are looking very kindly, and there is little doubt would be successful, if the adventurers would hold out a little longer. Some, again, are under the management of a London committee; the agents cannot get money to carry out their objects, and, therefore, unless something different is done, the mines must go down. Amongst such, I hear of Ballewidden United, in which, if my information is correct, the adventurers' money has been expended to the purpose, owing to the wages paid, ever since its commencement, been from time to time put off, therefore causing an uneasiness with the miners, and a sad waste of time; the miners having never worked with the mining-like spirit such as that manifested in the early days of the mine, when the large quantities of tin monthly, is still looking well, and, if worked with spirit, would ere long become a dividend-paying mine.—West Wheal Darlington, a little to the east of Penzance, has ceased working, though, I am told, it never looked better than just when it stopped. The adventurers have laid out a large capital, but the returns were very little; yet one of the adventurers told me only yesterday, the object aimed at was never obtained; and he said, "if any company would come forward and again put it to work, he would be ready to double the amount he had before."—Gwallow Mine is still idle, and it is not known when it will go to work; although my informant says the purser has used every energy to collect funds from the adventurers.—Trenow Consols, which is divided into 2000 shares, has been carried out against the wishes of some in the neighbourhood, and, from reports, gives great credit to those who have been concerned in getting up such a respectable company to carry the mine out. I am informed, the engine only went to work on the 31st of July; and some then said, as I am told, "it will take twelve months to fork the water;" but, by the exertions of the agents, instead of twelve months, that has been accomplished within eight months, and, from all reports, the mine looks better than ever. I expected, I believe the adventurers have embarked in an undertaking which will tend much to their advantage under the present careful and judicious management. I put particular attention to this mine, owing to the remarks of Mr. R. Symons, and can fully corroborate what he stated.—Wheal Charlotte, I find, is in 1024 shares; it has recently paid its first dividend, and is still looking well, which shows the district has been neglected; because, if mining is carried out in a proper manner, there is no doubt but mines in that district would answer beyond expectations.—Mount's Bay Consols has been worked by a spirited company, and, from reports, they will have a mine yet.—Ferran Consols, under the same management, is improving, and great credit is due to those who have had the mine to carry out.—T. C.

SOUTH PROVIDENCE (situate near Sithney, Cornwall) adjoins the eastern boundary of Great Wheal Fortune, and is about half a mile south of the Great Wheal Vor. It has several tin lodes, upon two of which extensive exploratory works have been lately executed with success, proving it to be deserving of a vigorous prosecution. The works hitherto have been conducted on a limited scale, many of the shares having been held by poor men, who have lately disposed of their interest to their richer co-adventurers, so that nearly all are now held by gentlemen resident in the neighbourhood of the mine, who are witnesses of the economy practised in the expenditure. The water is drained by a hired locomotive engine, which serves the purpose well for the present, the water being light. Having as yet no stamping machinery, the tin is being sold to the tin-smiths, of whom many exist in this district. As Mr. Symons, of Truro, the surveyor, has been at Helston, about a mineral map of the district, the relative position of this mine, as regards Wheal Vor, &c., will doubtless appear therein. The greatest landowner of Wheal Vor is part owner of South Providence, the other owner is Sir Samuel Spry. The purser is Mr. Corfield, of Penryn, a highly respectable person; the accountant is Mr. A. Robinson, Marazion, who was for several years in the office of R. K. Michell, Esq.

From the Cape of Good Hope, we learn that some beautiful specimens of Namaqualand copper ore had been exhibited at the Commercial Exchange: they were chiefly of the black oxide, and taken from the Jessie Smith Mine, belonging to Mr. John Owen Smith, at Kodesa. They are dug from a depth of 4 to 10 fms. in the mine, and yield a percentage of pure copper, varying from 45 to 75. A large quantity of samples of copper ore from Namaqualand Mines had also been received by the Great Namaqualand Mining Company, with favourable accounts of the promising indications on the much talked of No. 6.

The **GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH**, used in Her Majesty's laundry, is sold by all grocers and chemists; by Robert Wetherpoon and Co., 40, Dunlop-street, Glasgow; and Wetherpoon, Mackay, and Co., 56, Queen-street, Chesham, London.

GEOLOGICAL NOTICES OF AUSTRALIA.

[Read at the Geological Society.]

ON THE GEOLOGY OF THE GOLD FIELDS OF BALLARAT, EUREKA CREEK, AND CRESWICK CREEK, VICTORIA. By Mr. H. ROSE. (Communicated by W. W. SMYTH, Esq., F.G.S.)—The general character presented by these gold fields is an undulating surface, with steep slopes where slaty rocks protrude, and gentler in the lowlands, where the soil is composed chiefly of quartzose debris, and is covered by the monotonous vegetation of the "stringy-bark gum-tree." This district is surrounded by grassy plateaux of lava or basalt, on which the "white gum-trees" are predominant. The slaty rocks, or schists, which form the bed-rock of this district, are traversed by quartz veins or lodes, generally in the direction of their dip, which constitute the matrix of the gold. The superficial deposits, lying unconformably on the slates, sometimes include two gold-bearing beds. The lower one consists of large quartz boulders, which always indicate the run of the auriferous ground; and these are covered by gravels, sands, and clays, without any determinate arrangement. The alluvial deposits are divisible into—A. Older than the basalt; previous to the eruption of the lava, and the distribution of boulders of basalt.—B. Newer than the basalt; contemporaneous with the distribution of the basaltic boulders; and C. beds covering these boulders, but older than the formation of the existing valleys. The direction of the transport of the boulders is determinable in some localities. For the most part, these ancient drift-deposits have no relation to the present water-courses; and, from the subsequent accumulation of alluvium, the present relief of the country does not correspond with that of older surface.

ON THE GEOLOGY OF PART OF THE PEEL RIVER DISTRICT, AUSTRALIA. By M. F. O'DONNELL. (Communicated by Sir R. I. MURCHISON, F.G.S.)—In this paper, the author minutely describes the characters of the granite, trappean, and slaty rocks. In the last, both the slates and the limestone have undergone silification and brecciation. The proximity of serpentine has especially silicified the metamorphic rocks. The author considers it highly probable that the igneous rocks were intruded whilst the sedimentary strata were still being formed, and that they have been mutually affected in consequence. Where the metamorphism has been less in degree, the traces of fossils (*Lepidodendron*, &c.) have been met with in the softer rock. In the area of the greatest development of igneous and metamorphic rocks on the sides of the Peel River, and higher up the dividing range, is the locality of the auriferous quartz veins of this district. These veins are either parallel or transverse to the strike of the rocks. They seldom exceed a foot in thickness, and vary in extent; they occur for the most part in dioritic rock, and in dioritic and siliceous breccia, but appear to be richest in true diorite. The gold is only seen in outcropping and decomposing portions of the veins. Where the quartz becomes more compact, lower down in the vein, the gold is not visible, but iron pyrites occurs. From his observations on the subject, the author is led to believe that the gold is derived from the continual decomposition of the auriferous iron pyrites; and that, though drift gold is chiefly to be referred to these auriferous quartz veins, yet the decomposing surfaces of rocks containing iron pyrites, as the hornblende rock, syenite, diorite, porphyry, and breccia, of the Peel River district, are also to be regarded as a source of gold.

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF OBSIDIAN BOMBS IN THE AURIFEROUS ALLUVIUM OF AUSTRALIA. By the Rev. W. B. CLARKE, F.G.S.—The author referred to the volcanic bomb of green obsidian, brought from the plains between the Rivers Darling and Murray, and described by Mr. Darwin; and then entered upon the description of one from the Turon River, found at a depth of 30 feet, and of three others from the Uralla or Rocky River gold washings. These are small roundish substances, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, translucent, and of a green or blackish tint. From their general appearance, they are termed "button-stones" by the diggers. The author considers it probable that the Uralla bombs originated from volcanic outbursts, in connection with the igneous action of which the altered rocks in the dividing range, at the head of the river, and the basaltic plateau above the diggings, bear ample evidence, although craters are not known to exist; and that the bombs of the other districts referred to were also derived from local subterranean volcanoes.

ON THE OCCURRENCE OF FOSSIL BONES IN THE AURIFEROUS ALLUVIUM OF AUSTRALIA. By the Rev. W. B. CLARKE, F.G.S.—Fossil bones of extinct mammals have been found throughout a range of eleven degrees of latitude, and at heights varying from 100 feet below, to 1000 feet and upwards above, the sea level. The bones refer to the analogous occurrence of bones in gold drift in the Uralla, and in California; and in the latter country, this drift is frequently overspread with the products of volcanic outbursts, or with the debris of volcanic rocks. It would appear that a great part of the now dry land of these countries was under the water when these osseous remains were buried; and probably the destruction of the mammals at last was connected with the final outbreak of igneous forces, which changed the horizon of considerable tracts, and introduced a state of things incompatible with the existence of these, for the most part, gigantic animals, now extinct.

WEEKLY LIST OF NEW PATENTS.

WEEKLY LIST OF PATENTS SEALED.
F. B. Blanchard: Apparatus for generating motive-power.—F. Maneglia: Railway carriages.—J. Wright: Consumption of smoke.—J. Oxley: Wheels.—R. J. Mayron: Steam-engines.—R. Laming: Purification of gas and obtaining products.—B. Goodfellow: Pumping-machinery.—G. Heppel: Rotary pump and engine.—J. H. Piddock: Propelling and steering vessels.—F. Prince: Patterns for making moulds for railroads.—C. Low: Extraction of gold from its ores.—T. Harrison: Composition for ships' bottoms.—W. Kirrage: Consuming smoke.—F. Clarke: Locomotives.—W. Neilson: Locomotives.—W. J. M. Rankine and J. Thompson: Laying subaqueous electrical conductors.—J. S. Russell: Water ballast for ships.—H. Martin and J. Smethurst: Fencing for shafts, &c.—A. E. L. Belford: Railway-breaks.—W. Holroyd: Fencing for shafts, &c.—J. Gedge: Stopping railway trains.—E. T. Bellhouse and T. Cowburn: Vacuum and safety-valves.—H. Penney: Vulcanised India-rubber.
APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS, AND PROTECTION ALLOWED.
A. E. L. Belford, Castle-street, Holborn—Electro-magnetic clocks; also, machines for drilling stone.
J. W. Perkins, Poplar-terrace, Poplar—Purifying gas, the residuum arising from which forms a new artificial manure.
J. Edge, Bolton-le-moors—Improvements in pistons.
T. E. Moore, Great Titchfield-street, Marylebone—Improvements in machinery or apparatus for curvilinear and annular cuttings in metals and other hard substances.
R. Walker, Glasgow—Improvements in telegraphing.
J. Nasmyth, Barton-upon-Irwell, Lancaster—Machinery or apparatus for facilitating the forging of masses of iron.
C. Van den Bergh, Lacken-by-Brussels—Rotary steam-engines.
R. McDonnell, Glasgow—Improvements in locks.
C. J. Edwards, junr., Great Sutton-street, Clerkenwell, and F. Fras, Tavistock-terrace, Holloway—An improved manufacture of bearings for carriage axles and shafts of machinery in general.
J. E. Outridge, Constantinople—Transmitting motive-power.

ELECTRO-PLATING CUTLERY.—The improvements which have been made in the art of electrotyping, and the diversity of purposes to which it is now applied, almost surpass belief. It is used to make plates for printing bank notes, maps, common printing cuts, and type; also plated ware, and many other things. One of the most useful employments of it lately is its application to table cutlery, by Mr. Joseph Hill, of the City of London (U.S.). The art of electro-plating table cutlery in the prevention of the articles afterwards never requiring to be scoured, and have only to be wiped dry with a towel, or buckskin, after use, and always look bright and clear.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

ENGLAND.—Subjoined are the traffic returns of the various English lines for the last week:

	1855.	1854.
London and North-Western	535,641	484,177
Lancashire and Yorkshire	15,374	16,388
London and South-Western	11,333	14,680
Great Western	21,762	19,832
London and Brighton	9,667	11,461
Midland	24,510	25,172
South-Eastern	13,158	13,614
Great Northern	19,902	18,030
Chester and Holyhead	4,163	3,892
North-Eastern	27,145	27,076
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire	7,747	7,408
East Anglian	7,810	7,575
Eastern Counties, Norfolk, and Eastern Union	20,260	19,011
East Lancashire	5,614	5,177
Bristol and Exeter	5,282	5,603
Exeter and Crediton	126	107
Shropshire Union	718	605
North-Eastern, Lancashire, and Cheshire Junction	1,851	1,941
Manchester and South Junction	617	624
Oxford and Worcester	2,679	2,582
Newcastle and Carlisle	2,459	2,763
South Yorkshire	1,011	1,453

These figures show the following aggregate results:—

	Receipts.	Miles open.	Average per mile.
1855.	£252,627	4750 $\frac{1}{2}$	£53 8 6
1854.	£248,338	4619 $\frac{1}{2}$	£53 6 7

The traffic returns in general now begin to show signs of recovery.

SCOTLAND.—The returns on Scotch lines are:—		
	1855.	1854.
Aberdeen	£ 1,782	£1,930
Caledonian	9,585	9,727
North British	4,462	4,267
Edinburgh and Glasgow	4,399	3,508
Scottish Central	2,147	2,043
Glasgow and South Western	5,310	5,206

Total	£37,858	£38,481
IRELAND.—The Irish returns are:—	1855.	1854.
Belfast and Ballymena	£ 651	£ 939
Belfast and County Down	227	231
Dublin and Belfast Junction	905	833
Great Southern and Western	5,785	5,474
Waterford and Tramore	33	25
Total	£7,601	£7,523

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—The following is the result of 1854:

Accidents	48
Passengers killed	8
Passengers injured	239
Company's servants killed	13
Company's servants injured	23

A FORTUNATE RAILWAY.—Mr. Guy, the solicitor to the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway Company, states that that railway, since its opening, has conveyed 30,000 passengers without one fatal accident; and on the Barton branch, the scene of the late accident, since its opening in 1849, 38,900 trains have passed, conveying 611,320 passengers, with only four casualties to the trains, and no death to any passenger out of that number.

CAPT. THOMAS DUNN, of TAVISTOCK, undertakes to INSPECT, REPORT, and SURVEY any MINES or MINERAL PROPERTY in ENGLAND, IRELAND, SCOTLAND, or WALES. No objection to take the management of any mine or mines in the neighbourhood of Tavistock.

MINING IN IRELAND.—Capt. MATTHEW WASLEY begs to inform the mining public that, in consequence of the solicitations of several gentlemen, he purposes making arrangements for a TOUR through the MINING DISTRICTS OF IRELAND, when he will be prepared to INSPECT, REPORT, and ADVISE PARTIES respecting any mines or mineral property in that country, on the most advantageous terms; and trusts that upwards of 35 years of practice in Great Britain and Ireland will enable him to give entire satisfaction.—Communications addressed to Kenmare, Kerry, will meet with prompt attention.

MR. N. ENNOR, of WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSET, begs to inform his mining friends that he has PREPARED a LIST OF MINES, which he considers are FAIR SPECULATIONS, accompanied with ADVICE, and with which he intends furnishing parties desirous, for a moderate emolument.—For particulars, address as above.

MR. JAS. T. TREMAYNE (late accountant in the firm of Robert Michell and Son, merchants and smelters, of Truro) begs to inform his friends and the public, that he has COMMENCED BUSINESS at the undermentioned address as a MINING, SHIPPING, and GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT. Having had ten years' experience in general business in the above-named firm, he hopes to meet with support from his Cornish friends; and he begs to assure them that any business entrusted to him shall meet with due care and attention.

Mr. Jas. T. TREMAYNE has made arrangements for being regularly furnished with the best information regarding the mines of Devon and Cornwall.
Agent for Scawwater Saw Mills and Turning Factory, Truro.
1, Queen-street, Chesham.

MINING INVESTMENT.—T. FULLER and CO., 51, THREADNEEDLE-STREET, LONDON, continue to ADVISE CAPITALISTS upon all descriptions of MINING PROPERTY; and beg respectfully to call attention to the present favourable opportunity of PURCHASING in both BRITISH and FOREIGN DIVIDEND and PROGRESSIVE MINES, a careful selection of which cannot fail to remunerate all who invest, many of them paying profits of from 15 to 20 per cent. T. Fuller and Co., being in daily communication with agents of practical experience of the principal mines of Devon, Cornwall, and Wales, are in a position to furnish every information, either personally or by letter, and all instructions promptly attended to. Every kind of business transacted upon Stock Exchange principles.
N.B. Office hours from Ten till Five o'clock.

MINING INVESTMENT.—MR. CHARLES GURNEY, No. 4, CORBET COURT, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, will be happy to PURCHASE or SELL SHARES, on the usual commission, in all DIVIDEND MINES, now paying from 15 to 20 per cent.; or in those working under prospects of early dividends.

POLTIMORE MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that, after the 24th inst., the OFFICES of the company will be REMOVED to No. 21, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S, where all communications must then be addressed.
H. C. CROFT, Sec.

BERDAN MACHINE COMPANY.—On and after the 24th March, the OFFICES of this company will be REMOVED from 17, Cornhill, to 42, BASINGHALL STREET, to which place all orders and enquiries for machines, and transfers of shares, are requested to be directed.

TO COAL PROPRIETORS AND OTHERS.—NEWBRIDGE COAL FIELD, RUABON, DENBIGHSHIRE.—TO BE LET, ON LEASE, the RIGHT OF WORKING the valuable MINES of COAL and IRONSTONE under about 20 acres of land, situate at Newbridge, near Plaskynston, in the parish of Ruabon, in the county of Denbigh, within three miles of Ruabon, and seven miles of Oswestry, close adjoining the Shrewsbury and Chester Railway. This is a portion of the Plaskynston mineral field, now in full work, and contains many valuable seams of coal and ironstone, capable of being worked with great advantage.—For further particulars, and to treat for a lease, apply to Messrs. BURN and SOX, estate agents, Shrewsbury.

MONMOUTHSHIRE WAGON COMPANY.—The Directors are prepared to receive TENDERS for the CONSTRUCTION and DELIVERY of ONE HUNDRED NARROW GAUGE COAL WAGONS.—Sealed tenders, to be addressed to the "Chairman of Directors," Silver Hill, Newport, Monmouthshire, must be delivered on or before Ten A.M. of the 28th inst. Specifications, and any further information, may be had on application to THOMAS GRATEY, Esq., vice-chairman, Newport, Monmouthshire.
Dated, Newport, Monmouthshire, March 14, 1855.

DUSTON IRON ORE COMPANY.—The shareholders of the above company are hereby informed, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE per share on each and every share of the company, payable at their bankers—either the London and County Bank, Lombard-street, London; or the Northamptonshire Banking Company, Northampton—on or before the 24th day of April next.
THOS. NURSE, Sec.
Wellington Chambers, Cannon-street, London, March 5, 1855.

GREAT HEWAS UNITED MINE.—The Committee of Management REQUEST those SHAREHOLDERS who have NOT SURRENDERED the SCRIP issued on the formation of the company, in conformity to a resolution passed at a general meeting of the company, TO DO SO without loss of time. The committee, after this notice, will not hold the company responsible for any inaccuracies that may arise from the non-surrender of such scrip.
RICHARD EMERSON, Sec.

ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY.—At the ADJOURNED ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above company, held, pursuant to adjournment, this 16th day of March, 1855, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields.

Mr. GEO. E. COTTELL, in the chair.
The following resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—That a contribution of One Shilling per share be subscribed by each shareholder, to meet the requirements of the company; and that such sum be forwarded to the secretary of the company, at the office, on or before the 10th of April next; and that such sum of One Shilling per share be repaid to the shareholders out of the first dividend, which shall come to the hands of the directors; and that a bonus, at the rate of 25 per cent., be paid with the One Shilling per share.
That this meeting be further adjourned to Monday, the 16th day of April next.
That a vote of thanks be given to the chairman.
11, Adam-street, Adelphi. By order, GEO. F. GOODMAN, Sec.

INNEY CONSOLS COPPER AND SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY, SOUTH PETHERWEN, CORNWALL.—Notice is hereby given, that the THIRD HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders in this company will be HELD at No. 52, Moorgate-street, in the City of London, on Thursday, the 8th day of April next, at One o'clock in the afternoon, on the general business of the company.

And notice is hereby further given, that at such general meeting aforesaid, a resolution will be proposed, declaring any share or shares forfeited, under Art. 11 of the Rules and Regulations of the company, upon which any previous call shall not have been paid within 14 days after the payment of the same having been duly demanded by the purser; and for the purpose of giving full effect and validity to such proposal and resolution, as aforesaid, all calls now in arrear and unpaid are hereby formally demanded.
By order, THOS. LEE, Purser.
Office of the company, 52, Moorgate-street, London.
Dated this 17th day of March, 1855.

WEST ROSEWARNE UNITED TIN AND COPPER MINING COMPANY, GWINEAR, CORNWALL.

(Conducted on the Cost-book Principle, by a committee of shareholders in London.)
These valuable mines are situated in the parish of Gwinear, in the county of Cornwall, immediately contiguous to the western boundary of Camborne, one of the richest mineral districts in the world. They are respectively held of Sir Richard Vyvyan, Bart., and his Grace the Duke of Leeds, upon leases, with guarantees of leases for 21 years, at 1-15th dues. They adjoin the old Reliance Mine on the west, the lodes whereof intersect the sets; Rosewarne United Mines on the east, the rich lodes of which pass through their entire length, and are surrounded by the best paying mines in the country. The soil is a congenial clay-slate. Three large lodes of copper, and one of tin, have been worked below the adit, which is 30 fathoms deep.

A stratum of mudstone or carbonaceous, mixed with black and yellow ore, commences about 10 fms. west of the engine-shaft, dips westerly, crosses the adit, and in the 10 fm. level, about 32 fms. from the shaft, is 70 feet vertical thickness, and 5 fms. wide from surface; this lode is at least 50 tons per month; and when dressed, produces, at the present prices, 40. 10s. per ton for copper only, and 10s. per ton for mudstone, and meet the probable current expenses of the mines, after the engine has been erected. In the 50 fathom, the future level, the carbonaceous will meet a cross-course, where a valuable deposit of copper ore is believed to exist. Driving past on the engine lode, in the 12 fathom level, where the Rosewarne United Mines were found rich in copper, an abundant quantity of the same ore may be confidently relied upon, by the produce of which, the West Rosewarne United Mines will be placed among the rich dividend-paying mines of the district. The mines are divided into 3500 portion shares of £3 each, and will be disposed of free from further calls or contributions to the capital stock.

Shares will be issued by Mr. Thomas Spargo, mine agent and shareholder, at the office of the company, 70, Cornhill, London, and by the purser, Mr. Robert Symons, mineral surveyor, Truro. A plan and section of the mine, and cost-book of the company, may be inspected on and after Tuesday next by incoming shareholders at the office in London, where prospectuses may be obtained.

TROEDYRAUR ABERNANT UNITED MINES, SITUATE IN THE VALE OF RHEIDOL,

Two miles west of Covenbryn Mine, $\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Goginan Mine, 2 miles north of the Llaburine Mines, and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of Aberystwyth.

Since we commenced operations in these mines, they have proved satisfactory. We have proved the south lode for about 70 fms., by sinking and clearing up some old shafts sunk by some parties many years ago; moreover, we have sunk a shaft 10 fms. from surface on the course of the lode; the lode in this shaft is composed of quartz, gossan, and blende, and will yield from 10 to 12 cwt. per fm. of silver-lead ore; but in consequence of the water being too quick for us, we were obliged to abandon it, and commence dressing. In driving our deep adit we cut the north lode about 7 fms. from surface; this lode is about 4 ft. wide, composed of quartz, blende, and a strong mixture of silver-lead ore; 10 fms. from this lode we cut the south lode. In driving through the horse of ground between the two lodes, we had many droppers of ore—good indications of a body of ore before us. We cut the south lode 10 fms. from surface; this lode is 12 ft. wide, composed of quartz, gossan, and blende, with a strong mixture of silver-lead—saving work. We have commenced driving on the course of the lode, which will communicate with the shaft in about 60 fms., and, when driven to the shaft, we shall have from 35 to 40 fms. of backs of good ore ground; and if the level is continued on, it will prove the lode from 250 to 300 fms. in length, and many fathoms more in depth. These two lodes will intersect each other about 20 fms. west of our present adit. There is no doubt but these mines will, when thoroughly opened, be as productive as any mines in Cardiganshire.

TERGOVE MINING COMPANY.

To be conducted (until an Imperial Charter from the Austrian Government is obtained) under the Austrian Mining Laws.

Capital £50,000, in 20,000 shares of £2 10s. each.—£2 to be paid on allotment.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.
The Hon. WILLIAM NAFFIER, 2, Old Palace-yard, Westminster.
ROBERT OFFORD, Esq., Wells-street, Oxford-street.
JOHN FOLLIOTT POWELL, Esq., 7, Albion-place, Hyde-park.
SAMUEL SWONNELL, Esq., Mark-lane.

CONSULTING ENGINEER.—Jehu HITCHINS, Esq.
BANKERS.—In Vienna: Messrs. M. H. Weiskerchen and Co.
In London: The Union Bank of London.
SOLICITORS.—Messrs. Palmer and Nettleship, 4, Trafalgar-square.
BANKERS.—Messrs. J. Hutchinson and Son, 39, Lothbury.

OFFICES.—IN VIENNA: 4, TRAPALGAR SQUARE.

PROSPECTUS.

The mines, for the purchase and working of which it is proposed to form a company, are situated at Tergove, in Croatia, underlying a tract of about 25 English miles, chiefly of forest land, bordering on the navigable River Una.

Tergove is about 30 hours distant from Vienna, and there is a direct communication by the Una to its junction with the Save, thence by the Save to Steinbruck, and thence by railway to Vienna.

The mineral district comprehended within the limits before mentioned is one of the richest in the Austrian dominions, and there are indications of partial workings at a very remote period.

About the year 1842, the attention of the Austrian Government was directed to it, and trials were made on an extensive scale, at a cost to the Austrian Government of more than £30,000. About 56 different pits were opened, and disclosed the existence of copper, iron, and lead ores; the two former in great abundance, and of good quality. Of the copper ore a large quantity was extracted, and is now lying at the mines, ready for smelting.

The result of these trials was so satisfactory, that in the year 1846 a commission was appointed, consisting of scientific and practical men, to report upon the mines, with a view to their being worked by the Government.

That report being favourable, materials were brought upon the ground for the erection of the necessary works, and preparations were made for mining on an extensive scale; but the breaking out of the Hungarian revolution, and the consequent calling out of the Croats for military service, suspended these operations, which have never since been resumed. And the Austrian Government having since adopted the policy of not directly concerning itself in industrial undertakings, a contract has been made for the sale, or grant, of the Tergove Mines to certain gentlemen in Vienna, on terms exceedingly favourable to the purchasers.

A promise has since been obtained of the concession by the Government of other and very valuable accessory privileges, such as the grant of an unlimited supply of wood in the neighbourhood for smelting purposes, at a price not exceeding half the rate at present paid for fuel, and an arrangement has been made for the commutation of the royalty payable to the Government into a mining rent of about £50 per annum.

A provisional agreement has been entered into by the promoters of the company for the purchase from the concessionaries of all their interest and property in the mines, including the ore now on the ground, for the sum of £15,000, with 2½ per cent. on the gross produce of the mines, as realised from time to time; and also for the purchase of the plant, materials, and buildings, at the price of £3000, to be paid in cash.

The promoters, being desirous of obtaining the best professional advice on the state and prospects of the mines, dispatched Mr. Jehu Hitchins to the spot, with instructions to investigate and report. A copy of his report accompanies the prospectus, and will be found to confirm the favourable opinion entertained of the value of the property. Among other things, it will be seen that, taking the least favourable result of two assays, he estimates the profit on the copper ore already extracted and lying on the ground at £2735.

The official report made to the Austrian Government gives a higher computation as to the quantity and richness of the ore raised, and computes the extent of the ore ground laid open for stopping at 6315 fms., and the quantity of ore at 13,800 tons, with an average yield of 7 per cent.—viz.:

Total quantities of dressed ore on the ground, as per Government accounts—	
From August Mine.....	15,544 Austrian centner, or 1,002 tons.
„ Thomaschitz Mine.....	1,084 „ „ 68 „
„ Julius Mine.....	1,235 „ „ 75 „
„ Franz Mine.....	1,303 „ „ 80 „
Total.....	1,237 tons, valued at £3000.

Ore ground laid open for stopping, according to the plans and calculation of Government mining captain—

Ore ground laid open for stoping, according to the plans and calculation of Government mining captain—

Augusta Mine, about.....	4,180 fms.	10,000 tons.
Thomaschitz Mine, about.....	1,550 "	2,800 "
Julius Mine, about.....	285 "	800 "
Franz Mine, about.....	300 "	200 "

Upon the best information that can be obtained, the cost of stopping and dressing this ore will not exceed 20s. per ton; and, calculating the ore to average only 5 per cent. (which is much below the average produce of the mines intended to be worked), and taking the Government scale for smelting as a safe basis, the cost price of a ton of copper would be £29 17s. 4d.—viz.:

16½ tons of dressed ore, 6 per cent.....	£16 13 4
For smelting charges, including loss, 3 per cent.....	13 4 0=20 17 4

The promoters have the offer of selling all the copper they can make, at 72 forins per Austrian centner, or £111 per ton, at the smelting-works; and as the present price of copper at Vienna is £130 per ton, it is evident that, making the most liberal allowance for errors of excess in the official report, the value of the ore raised and laid open for stopping must very greatly exceed the whole capital proposed to be invested in the undertaking.

It will be seen by the report of Mr. Jehu Hitchins, that the ground is extremely favourable for mining operations, and that the past workings give the assurance of a large and continuous supply of copper ore of high quality, at cheap rate, whereby the undertaking is altogether divested of the ordinary risks of mining enterprise.

But, independently of the large and certain profit thus derivable from the working of the copper ore, there are, as has been stated, very extensive and valuable beds of iron ore; to these Mr. Hitchins refers in his report, and having had the opportunity of judging of the character and cost of manufacture of the iron made in that district from small ironworks which is already established there, and which, without any modern improvement, turns out as much as 100 centners a day of good grey metal pig-iron, he had correct data for arriving at a correct conclusion.

The cost price of producing 18½ Austrian centners, or 1 ton English, charcoal pig-iron is estimated at less than 40s., and, at the present rate of prices, a profit of £2 per ton would be realised. If the pig-iron were manufactured into bars, a still higher rate of profit might be attained.

It is not, however, intended to undertake the smelting or manufacture of iron, and the above statement is made for the purpose of showing that the purchase, including as it does these important deposits of iron, is an exceedingly advantageous one. What is proposed by the present company is, to complete the purchase of the mines generally, and to work the copper. The capital contemplated for this purpose is £40,000. Of this, as already stated, £15,000 in shares would be required for the connection, and £25,000 in cash for the purchase of the plant and material. This would leave £25,000 for working and for general purposes, a sum probably far exceeding what would actually be required; but in order to guard against any possible contingency which might arise from a deficiency of capital, the promoters have thought it prudent to extend it to £40,000. This capital is proposed to raise in 20,000 shares, of £2 10s. each, of which £2 10s. is to be paid on allotment.

As respects the iron mines, which, by the purchase, will belong to the company, it is proposed to reserve a power to the shareholders either to sell this portion of the property, with the privileges and rights of working incident thereto, or, if it shall be so determined, to form another company, with a distinct capital, for the iron working; but not to act for that purpose to be done without the assent of the English committee of management, and the consent of three-fourths in number and value of the shareholders. If it should be determined to establish a distinct company for working the iron, the shares will be offered first to the shareholders of the existing company, but no shareholder will be under any obligation to take them.

No part of the capital raised for the purposes of this company, nor of the revenues derived from the copper works, will be applied to the working of the iron. It is intended that the company shall be constituted at the earliest practicable period under the sanction of an incorporated body, without personal or individual liability. In the meantime, operations may be carried on under the ordinary mining laws of Austria; and, in either case, the affairs and operations of the company will be under the direction and supervision of a committee of management in London, and the shareholders or subscribers will incur no liability beyond the amount of their shares.

The committee reserve to themselves the right of making such modifications in the above proposal, and taking such measures for effecting the intended object, as circumstances may in their judgment render necessary or expedient, and specially of completing the purchase and commencing operations whenever capital to the extent of £30,000, including the purchase of shares, shall have been subscribed for. When the company shall have been constituted, and notice thereof shall have been given by advertisement in any of the London morning newspapers, all the subscribers and holders of shares shall be considered as having adhered to the statutes which may be agreed upon. Plans of the mines, and particulars of the returns made by the mining agent to the Austrian Government, may be seen at the offices of the solicitors, Messrs. HUTCHINSON and SON, 39, Lothbury; or to Messrs. PALMER and NETTLESHIP, No. 4, Trafalgar-square, London.

FORM OF APPLICATION.
GENTLEMEN, I request you will allot me shares of £2 10s. each in the above undertaking; and I undertake to accept the same, or any less number which may be allotted to me, and to pay a deposit of £2 per share on allotment, and the further sum of 10s. per share as and when called for. And I authorise the committee to take such measures as they may think fit for constituting the company on the basis of the above prospectus, and to assent to such statutes as may be deemed advisable.

Dated this day of 1855. Name in full.....

Address.....

Reference.....

Signature.....

Occupation.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

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Witness.....

Witness.....

Witness.....

RAILWAY WAGONS.—WM. A. ADAMS, MIDLAND WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.

BROAD AND NARROW GAUGE COAL AND IRONSTONE WAGONS, IN STOCK—FOR SALE OR HIRE.

RAILWAY WHEEL AND AXLE WORKS.—GEORGE WORSDELL AND CO., WARRINGTON, MANUFACTURERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HAMMERED IRON, TYRES, AXLES, &c.

GRIFFIN AND HENSON, RAILWAY CARRIAGE AND WAGON BUILDERS, SOHO, BIRMINGHAM. MANUFACTURERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF IRONWORK FOR RAILWAY CARRIAGES AND WAGONS.

INGLIS AND CHISHOLM, MANCHESTER, MAKE SMALL STEAM-ENGINES FOR MINERS, CONTRACTORS, &c.; ALSO, DRILLING, PUNCHING, AND SHEARING MACHINES, AND OTHER TOOLS, of the best quality, at a reasonable price.—Address, INGOLIS and CHISHOLM, Charles-street, Garratt, Manchester.**MESSRS. J. AND G. JOICEY AND CO., ENGINEERS, IRON FOUNDERS, &c., having entered on the extensive premises at FORTH BANKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (late occupied by Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co.), and now in a position to MANUFACTURE every description of LOCOMOTIVE, MARINE, and RAILWAY ENGINES, BOILERS, TANKS, BRIDGES, and every other machinery and ironwork.****CLECKHEATON IRONWORKS, YORKSHIRE.—JOHN TAYLOR, MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF FORGINGS FOR LOCOMOTIVE, MARINE, AND OTHER ENGINES, HEAVY SHAFING, ARM MOULDS, AND ALL OTHER COUNTRY FORGINGS.****TO IRONMASTERS, MERCHANTS, CONTRACTORS, FOUNDERS, &c.—Messrs. DAUNT and MOFFAT, METAL BROKERS, 59, ST. VINCENT STREET, GLASGOW, OFFER THEIR SERVICES FOR THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF IRON AND MANUFACTURED IRON.**

All orders carefully executed, and prompt shipments made.

VENTILATION OF COAL MINES.—BIRAM'S PATENT ANEMOMETER (Price, 12 in. £4 4s.; 6 in. £3 3s.) TO BE OBTAINED OF THE KEVEL, JOHN DAVIS, Mathematical Instrument Maker, Derby.

Dials, Levels, Pit Barometers, and all accessories pertaining to the engineer.

KENTLEDGE ALWAYS IN STOCK, OR MADE TO BUYERS' OWN SPECIFICATION.—Apply to WILLIAM F. SIM, Sweeting-street, Liverpool.—N.B. Old Kentledge bought.**WANTED.—ROTARY ENGINE, 18 or 20 in. cylinder, complete, except boiler, with or without crusher attached. Also, 250 fms. of ¾ in. FLAT RODS, with pulleys.**

FOR SALE.—PUMPING ENGINE, 36 in. combined, complete, except boiler. Price and other particulars to be sent to Mr. H. E. CROKER, No. 3, Frankfort-street, Plymouth.

NORRIS'S PATENT RAILWAY CHAIR COMPANY beg to draw the attention of railway companies and engineers to NORRIS'S PATENT RAILWAY JOINT CHAIRS. This patent has received the unqualified approbation of some of the most eminent engineers of the day, as the most effective, economical, and perfect joint in use at the present time. The simplicity of its construction is such as will allow of its application to any line of railway, without causing the slightest hindrance to the ordinary traffic during the time that it is being laid down.

The saving in the preservation of the permanent way and rolling stock by the application of Norris's Patent is incalculable; and wherever adopted must very considerably decrease working expenses.

To railway companies, having old and bad roads, the principle is peculiarly advantageous, as its application will not only restore the road to a perfectly safe and serviceable state for many years, but, at the same time, bring into efficient use all the old and broken chairs.

To the railway world in general it is of the greatest value, as it admits of the easiest locomotion, and is most simple and economical in principle.

Every information will be given, and models forwarded for inspection, on application to the manager, at the offices of the company, Wolverhampton.

THE PERMANENT WAY COMPANY beg to call the attention of civil engineers, contractors, and others interested in the construction of railways to the PRESENT LOW PRICE OF IRON, by which a SAVING may be effected of nearly £300 per mile, single line, in the ADOPTION of Mr. W. H. BARLOW'S PATENT WROUGHT-IRON PERMANENT WAY, over that of the ordinary road.

Every information can be obtained on application to WM. HOWDEN, Sec., 26, Great George-street, Westminster.

MESSRS. GWYNNE AND CO. are PREPARED TO GRANT LICENSES FOR THE REDUCTION OF IRON, COPPER, LEAD, TIN, AND OTHER ORES, FUSING AND REFINING METALS, CEMENTATION OF STEEL, &c., by their NEWLY PATENTED PROCESS. Results can be produced in less than half the time at present required, and it is expected eventually in practice it will not exceed one-third, reducing the cost of the best steel to one-half its present price, with a corresponding saving in time and reduction in price in all other metals.

Messrs. Gwynne and Co. are also PREPARED TO GRANT LICENSES FOR THE MANUFACTURE of their NEW and POWERFUL FUELS, superior to all others yet brought before the public, in their increased heating and calorific value, their entire freedom from spontaneous combustion, their density and compactness of form, and in their great economy of first cost, by the improved modes of manufacture. Machinery for the complete manufacture of 1 to 50 tons of this fuel per hour may be procured from Messrs. Gwynne and Co. Samples of the fuel may be inspected, reports on its value, and all information, can be had by applying to Messrs. GWYNNE and Co., engineers, Essex Wharf, Strand, London.

TO MINING COMPANIES AND OTHERS.—MINING MACHINERY of all kinds: STEAM-ENGINES, from 20 to 500-horse power; WATER-WHEELS and GEARING; constructed by an eminent Cornish engineering firm.—Apply to WILLIAM SMITH, Esq., C.E., 10, Salisbury-street, Adelphi, London.**TO ENGINEERS, MILLWRIGHTS, AND OTHERS.—PETER ROTHWELL JACKSON'S MACHINE for MOULDING SPUR and OTHER WHEELS (without wheel patterns) is NOW AT WORK, and he can SUPPLY WHEEL CASTINGS of any diameter, pitch, number, breadth, or form of cog, on reasonable terms, WITHOUT ANY CHARGE FOR PATTERNS. This method of moulding produces wheels of a superior quality, and will be found very valuable when a change of speed is required, or to replace broken wheels with others of stronger proportions.**

P. R. JACKSON also HOLDS a LICENSE to MANUFACTURE RAMSBOTTOM'S PATENT METALLIC PISTONS, which, for lightness, cheapness, simplicity, and efficiency, he can with confidence recommend.

References to parties who have the patent wheels and pistons at work, and any other information as to prices, or licenses to manufacture them, may be had on application at the Salford Rolling Mills, Manchester.

TO ENGINEERS, MILLWRIGHTS, SHIPBUILDERS, &c.—W. BLACKETT, ENGINEER, CROSSBY HALL CHAMBERS, BISHOPSGATE STREET, LONDON, has FOR SALE, and READY FOR DELIVERY, various ENGINEERING TOOLS, comprising large and small drilling and boring machines, self-acting screw-cutting lathes, hand lathes, planed iron beds and compound slide rests, shaping and planing machines, and other useful tools. Particulars forwarded on application.**PATENT SAFETY FUSE.—THE GREAT EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL was AWARDED to the MANUFACTURERS of the ORIGINAL SAFETY FUSE, BICKFORD, SMITH, DAVEY, and PRYOR, who beg to inform**

Contractors, Mine Agents, Railway Contractors, and all persons engaged in blasting operations, that the purpose of protecting the public in the use of a genuine article, the PATENT SAFETY FUSE has now a thread wrought into its centre, which, being patent right, infallibly distinguishes it from all imitations, and ensures the continuity of the gunpowder.

This Fuse is protected by a Second Patent, is manufactured by greatly improved machinery, and may be had of any length and size, and adapted to every climate. Address.—BICKFORD, SMITH, DAVEY, and PRYOR, Tuckermill, Cornwall.

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254	Concord (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	75	16	16	0 6 0	0 6 0-June, 1850.
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1024	Goppan (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	8	6	6	0 7 6	0 7 6-Dec., 1852.
30000	Great Crinoid (copper), St. Cleer	13 1/2	13 1/2	14	0 1 0	0 1 0-Sept., 1854.
1750	Great Crinoid (copper), St. Austell	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	0 10 0	0 4 0-Oct., 1852.
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1024	Herodfoot (lead), near Liskeard	8 1/2	4	2 1/2	2 12 6	0 7 6-April, 1854.
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2045	Kennegry (copper), Breage	6s. 7d.	1 1/2	1 1/2	0 4 0	0 4 0-March, 1854.
786	Kirkcudbrightshire (lead), Kirkcudbright	—	—	—	1 15 0	0 5 0-May, 1854.
20000	Lackamore (copper), Tipperary, Ireland	1	—	—	0 1 0	0 1 0-July, 1853.
20	Lake Mining Company, Isle of Man	100	1000	1000	1300 0 0	0 5 0-Feb., 1855.
5000	Levis (tin, copper), St. Erth	31 8s.	1	1	1044 0 0	0 2 0-Feb., 1855.
400	Levan (copper, tin), St. Just	2 1/2	100	100	218 15 0	0 2 0-Dec., 1854.
400	Lebanne (lead), Cardiganshire, Wales	18 1/2	175	175	117 6 0	0 1 0-June, 1853.
320	Machno Slate and Slab Company	25	30	30	0 12 6	0 12 6-June, 1853.
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5000	Merlyn (lead), Flint	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	1 11 0	0 2 6-June, 1853.
20000	Mining Co. of Ireland (copper, lead, coal)	7	16 1/2	16 1/2	10 6 6	0 14 0-Jan., 1855.
5000	Nantlle Vale (slate), Llanfyllin	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	0 3 9	0 1 3-Nov., 1854.
—	—	—	—	—	41 0 0	0 2 0-Jan., 1855.
470	Newtowns Mining Company, Co. Down	50	80	80	324 0 0	0 2 0-Dec., 1854.
200	North Pool (copper, tin), Pool	22 1/2	80	80	219 10 0	0 4 0-Sept., 1853.
10	North Rosker (copper), Camborne	10	85	80 100	3 16 0	0 10 0-Feb., 1855.
6000	North Wheel Basset (copper, tin), Illogan	10 1/2	18	18	23 6 0	0 10 0-July, 1853.
6100	Par Conso (copper), St. Blazey	1 1/2	12	12	3 0 0	0 10 0-Oct., 1854.
500	Peak United (lead), North Derbyshire	21 1/2	15	15	1 15 0	0 10 0-June, 1851.
1160	Perran St. George (tin), Porthmadoc	30	300	300	50 0 0	0 10 0-Nov., 1853.
200	Phonix (copper, tin), Llanfyllin	15	—	—	6 0 0	0 1 0-Sept., 1854.
1000	Polberro (tin), St. Agnes (Preferential)	20 1/2	21	21	24 4 0	0 1 0-Feb., 1855.
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1948	Rix Hill (tin), Tavistock	3 1/2	—	—	350 0 0	0 8 0-Jan., 1855.
236	South Caradon (copper), St. Cleer	310	300	300	2 2 6	0 7 6-Sept., 1854.
9000	South Tamar (silver-lead), Breage	1 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	276 5 0	0 4 0-May, 1855.
236	South Tolgus (copper), Redruth, Cornwall	16	95	820 330	8 8 6	0 2 6-Dec., 1853.
248	South Wheel Frances (copper), Illogan	37 1/2	330	330	0 17 6	0 7 6-April, 1852.
1024	Spearer Conso (tin), St. Just, Cornwall	1 1/2	—	—	888 0 0	0 8 0-Feb., 1854.
1024	St. Aubyn and Grylls (copper, tin), Breage	80	100	100	11 10 0	0 3 0-Oct., 1850.
94	St. Ives Conso (tin), St. Ives	60	6	6	4 11 0	0 2 0-Feb., 1853.
1000	Tamar Conso (silver-lead), Breage	4 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 18 6	0 10 0-Feb., 1853.
2000	Tinctor (copper, tin), near Pool, Illogan	7 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	7 16 3	0 5 0-Feb., 1855.
6048	Treban (silver-lead), Menheniot	7 1/2	6	6	1 3 0	0 1 0-Feb., 1854.
5000	Treleigh Conso (copper), Redruth	6	2 1/2	2 1/2	1 3 0	0 1 0-Feb., 1854.
572	Trevelyan Conso (tin), St. Ives	11 1/2	24	24	4072 15 0	0 7 0-Jan., 1855.
96	Tresavan (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	32 1/2	200	200	403 13 6	0 2 0-April, 1851.
120	Trevelyan (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	7 1/2	—	—	0 1 0	0 1 0-Feb., 1855.
10000	Trevelyan (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	7 1/2	—	—	303 10 0	0 4 0-March, 1854.
120	Trevelyan (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	7 1/2	—	—	0 13 0	0 3 0-June, 1854.
4006	Trevelyan (copper), Gwennap, Cornwall	2	3 1/2	3 1/2	55 0 0	0 5 0-Dec., 1854.
100	Trumpet Conso (tin), near Helston	95	—	—	47 5 0	0 2 0-Feb., 1854.
400	United Mines (copper), Gwennap	40	200	210	2 5 0	0 2 6-Jan., 1855.
1224	Wellington (copper, tin), Perranuthnoe	8 1/2	—	—	1 0 0	0 10 0-Jan., 1855.
7500	Welsh Potol (silver-lead), Talylthor, Card.	5	6 1/2	6 1/2	0 11 0	0 0-Jan., 1855.
2500	—	3 1/2	—	—	0 10 0	0 10 0-March, 1855.
6000	West Basset (copper), Illogan	1 1/2	30	150 160	265 5 0	0 4 0-Feb., 1855.
236	West Caradon (copper), Liskeard	20	170	100	10 0 0	0 2 0-March, 1855.
236	West Damsel (copper), Gwennap	£10 7	100	103	23 5 0	0 1 0-Nov., 1854.
1024	West Providence (tin), St. Erth	7 1/2	280	255 260	20 0 0	0 5 0-Feb., 1855.
200	West Wheel Seton (copper), Camborne	7 1/2	17	17	4 10 0	0 10 0-Feb., 1855.
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1024	Wheel Buller (copper), Redruth	5	570	550	626 5 0	0 25 0-Jan., 1855.
1024	Wheel Charlotte, Perranuthnoe	3 1/2	13	13	3 13 8	0 2 6-March, 1853.
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5000	Wheel Golden (all-lead), Perranuthnoe	14 1/2	10	10	4 10 0	0 2 0-May, 1853.
6000	Wheel Jane (silver-lead), Roche	3 1/2	10	10	30 0 0	0 2 0-Aug., 1854.
512	Wheel Jane (silver-lead), Roche	3 1/2	10	10	220 0 0	0 2 0-Aug., 1854.
430	Wheel Lavel (tin), Wendron	33	52	52	22 0 0	0 2 0-March, 1854.
112	Wheel Margaret (tin), Uny Lelant	79	100	100	167 3 0	0 2 0-Feb., 1855.
512	Wheel Mary Ann (lead), Menheniot	5 1/2	36 1/2	36 1/2	40 10 0	0 3 0-Sept., 1852.
80	Wheel Owses, St. Just, Cornwall	70	400	400	254 10 0	0 8 0-April, 1854.
240	Wheel Reeth (tin), Uny Lelant	24 1/2	280	280	46 10 0	0 10 0-April, 1854.
128	Wheel Seton (tin, copper), Camborne	107	105	31 1/2	10 2 6	0 4 0-Feb., 1855.
120	Wheel Trevelyan (silver-lead), Liskeard	8 1/2	—	—	24 13 0	0 12 0-July, 1854.
1024	Wheel Tremayne (tin, copper), Gwennap	11 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	31 13 0	0 12 0-July, 1854.
4006	Wheel Wrey (lead), St. Ives	—	38 1/2	38 1/2	0 2 0	0 1 0-Aug., 1854.
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10000	Brazilian Imperial (gold), Brazil	5	138	138	34 17 6	0 10-Dec., 1854.
2164	Burra Burras (copper), South Australia	40	40	40	150 0 0	0 5 0-Sept., 1854.
12000	Cobre Copper Company (copper), Cuba	40	40	40	60 12 0	0 4 0-Jan., 1855.
200000	Colo Colo Mining Company (copper), Chili	16	10	17 19	0 1 6	0 1 6-March, 1854.
20000	General Min. Assoc. (iron, coal), Nova Scotia	20	10 1/2	7 1/2	2 0 0	0 15 0-March, 1854.
10000	Linares (lead), Pozo Ancho, Spain	3	8 1/2	7 1/2	0 2 0	0 10-July, 1853.
08513	Marquitas and New Granada	1	6 1/2	6 1/2	0 6 0	0 7 6-Jan., 1855.
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88715	North British Australasian	1	1	1	0 1 0	0 10-June, 1853.
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7000	Royal Santiago (copper), Cuba	11 1/2	—	—	27 7 6	0 2 0-Nov., 1854.
104000	San Fernando (silver-lead), Linares	15	30 1/2	29 30	1 16 0	0 4 0-Feb., 1853.
11000	St. John del Rey (gold), Brazil	15	—	—	0 1 0	0 4 0-Feb., 1853.
42174	United Mexican (silver), Mexico	28 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	0 1 0	0 4 0-Feb., 1853.

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100000	Agua Fria (gold), California	1	—	—	—	—
35000	Almaden (silver-lead), Spain	1	—	—	—	—
19000	Australian (cop.), S. Australia	6	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—
75000	Braconia (gold), Brazil	1	—	—	—	—
60000	Clarendon Conso, Jamaica	1	—	—	—	—
25000	Dalecarlia (all-lead), Sweden	1	—	—	—	—
25000	Fortuna (silver-lead), Spain	1	—	—	—	—
120000	Glabach (zinc), Rhenish Pruss.	1	—	—	—	—
20000	Iberian (silver-lead), Spain	1	—	—	—	—
12000	Jamaica (copper)	1	—	—	—	—
20000	Keweenaw Point (cop., all)	1	—	—	—	—
2300	Kinsale (copper), Plymouth	1	—	—	—	—
60000	Liberty (gold), Virginia, U.S.	1	—	—	—	—
60000	Linares, New, (lead, cop.), Spain	1	—	—	—	—

MINES WHICH HAVE SOLD ORES.

Shares.	Mines.	Paid.	Last Price.	Present.	Dividends per Share.	Last Paid.
3000	Altarnun Con. (tin, cop.), Altarnun	3 1/2	2	2	—	—
940	Balloon Con. (tin), Uny Lelant	3	1	1	—	—
4000	Baleswiden (tin), St. Just	1	—	—	—	—
13000	Ballygonagh (lead), Wicklow	1	—	—	—	—
4000	Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare	£1 8	—	—	—	—
15000	Barytes Company of Ireland	1	—	—	—	—
4000	Bedford Conso.	11	2 1/2	2 1/2	—	—
503	Hall and Lannarth, Gwennap	11	2 1/2	2 1/2	—	—
1500	Birch Aller, Bridford	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	—	—
3000	Birch Tor and Vistler, Lydford	£3 5	—	—	—	—
1300	Bolling Well (copper)	10	17 1/2	—	—	—
120	Borwall and St. Just	1	—	—	—	—
4026	Boringdon Conso, Plymouth	4	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—
230	Boscan (tin), St. Just	30	70	—	—	—
4335	Botlle Hill (copper), Plympton	3 1/2	—	—	—	—
4006	Braich Goch Sile Quarries	—	—	—	—	—
126	Britannia, Llanarnon	6	10	—	—	—
4000	Brynffloy (lead), N. Wales	—	—	—	—	—
100	Brynffloy Hall (lead), Flint	20	103	—	—	—
420	Buteinick Conso (tin), Perran	23	3 1/2	3 1/2	—	—
230	Builer and Basset Union (cop.)	31 1/2	87 1/2	80	—	—
3006	Ewch (sil.-lead), Cardiganshire	4	3	3	—	—
6000	Caeagwan (gold), Merioneth	—	—	—	—	—
5000	Cae-Gynon, Cardiganshire	8s. 6d.	—	—	—	—
1024	Caeprilhy & Carnfon, S. Wales	8	—	—	—	—
3384	Calstock Conso (copper)	—	—	—	—	—
8164	Cabotek an Iron, N. Wales	£4 17	—	—	—	—
1000	Camborne Conso.	3 1/2	—	—	—	—
1024	Caradon Conso, St. Cleer	5	—	—	—	—
3000	Carbana (tin, copper), Crowan	7	—	—	—	—
50000	Carnarvonshire Slate	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—
2648	Carnryth (tin), St. Just	—	—	—	—	—
8386	Carrack Hill (tin), St. Just	£1 8	—	—	—	—
8000	Carrig-hova (cop.-lead), Selwip	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—
1036	Carvannall (copper), Gwennap	£10 14	3 1/2	3 1/2	—	—
4006	Castle Dinas (tin), St. Colomb	2 1/2	—	—	—	—
6000	Caylan, North Wales	£2 3	2 1/2	2 1/2	—	—
200	Cefn Brynwe (lead), Cardigansh.	33	—	—	—	—
2000	Clare	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—
1024	Clijah & Caeffnewydd (tin, cop.)	14	13	15	—	—
8200	Cloance Wood	8s.	—	—	—	—
3000	Coed Mawr Pool (lead), Llanrwst	6 1/2	—	—	—	—
15000	Connemara, Galway	4	—	—	—	—
2310	Cook's Kitchen, Illogan	£15 18 9	—	—	—	—
30000	Coosheen (copper), Corz	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	—	—